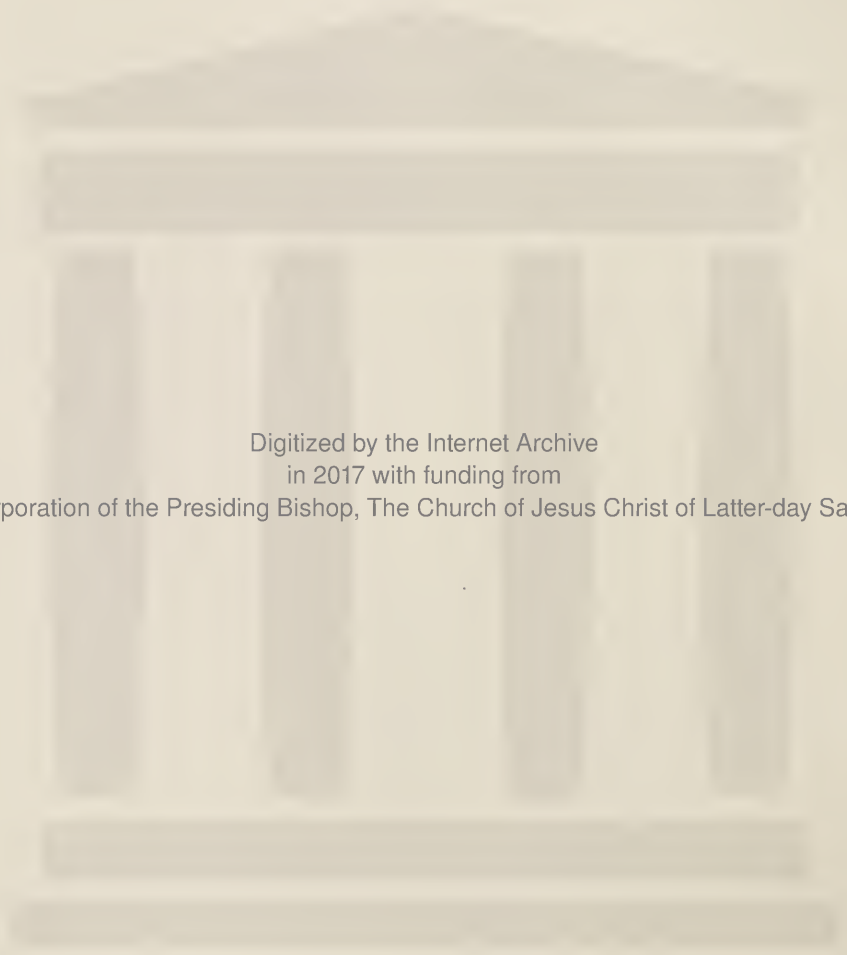
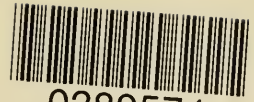


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**Elizah Hedding Gillespie,
His Ancestors, Descendents
and Their Families**



**Elizah Hedding Gillespie
1918**

William Harry and Betty Jean Rasnick Gillespie

1975

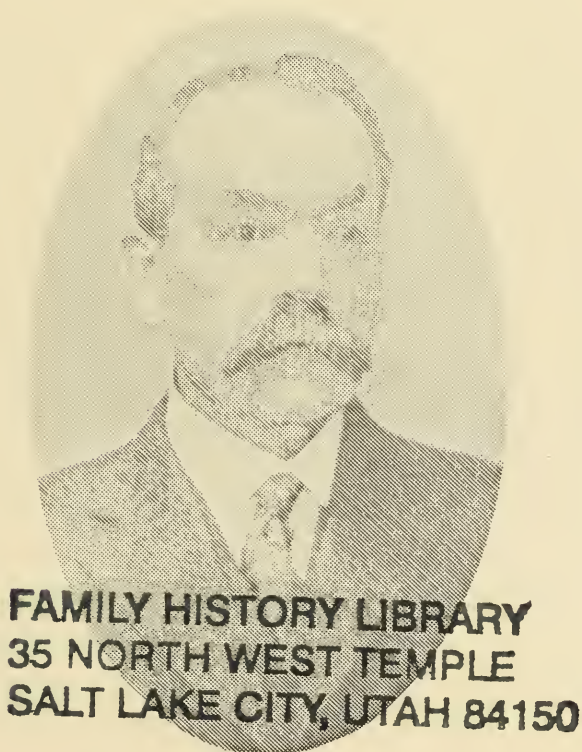


Ellisbie - Thayer Family

Hyacinth - About 1925

A. H. Ralston

**A
Brief Genealogy
of
Elizah Hedding Gillespie,
His Ancestors, Descendents
and Their Families**



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William Harry and Betty Jean Rasnick Gillespie

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Published by the Authors

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PREFACE

Bill, Linda, Cliff, Jim and Laura:

I hope you enjoy this little pamphlet as much as we have enjoyed putting it together.

It was started as a small project to acquaint each of you with your cousins. But, as we attempted to gather more exact information, we found that dates have a way of getting lost, that memories become more and more imperfect with the passage of time and that concise records on family events are seldom kept. As a consequence, we began to ask more and more questions and to search old records more and more diligently. The results are incorporated in this pamphlet along with a few notes telling you about life in Webster County in the days of your great-grandfather. If you will take time to add a note or a date from time to time it could prove to be a valuable genealogical document in another generation or two.

This is but one of four segments we plan and have started. We hope they can be spaced at about yearly intervals.

Perhaps you may be interested in how we selected the pictures. In spite of repeated requests, some of the relatives just didn't respond. We will try to include them in other segments. This explains the deletions. The others were just randomly selected from our collections.

Dad & Mom

Easter, 1975

DEDICATION

This little pamphlet is affectionately dedicated to four individuals who personify the old time way of remembering and respecting ones relatives. We could not have written it without their help and especially without their memories. So, Uncle Clarence, Aunt Bertha, Mom and Dad, we hope you approve of what we have done with your thoughts and words.

Bill & Betty

GILLESPIE AS A NAME

Gillespie is a Scottish name, apparently first spelled Gilleasbuig and used as a descriptive nickname. The etymology of the word is somewhat uncertain, although most genealogical dictionaries say it is thought to have been compounded from “guille” and “easbuig” to mean the “servant of the bishop” or the “bishop’s servant.”

The elevation of the nickname to a surname is also uncertain, although Raderic MacGillescop (son of the bishop’s servant) is listed in several records as making a gift of land to the Abby of Melrose in the year 1200. Other close versions include Ferquhar Macgillespy, who lived in Petty in 1502, Ruistone Macgillespie, cleric of Cawdor in 1858 and Donald M’Glespick and Charles M’Ilespick of Breve and John M’Ilespie of Ardunagig who were denounced as rebels in 1675.

According to A. W. Dellquest (1938, **These Names of Ours**, Thomas Crowell Co., Philadelphia), Gilleasbuig is also the gaelic equivalent of “Archibald” and was often abbreviated to “Gillies.” Henry Harrison (1969, **Surnames of United Kingdom**, Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, Md.) states “Archibald was adopted by Scots as a Lowland equivalent of Gillespie because the **bald** was mistakenly supposed to mean ‘hairless,’ ‘shaven’ and therefore to be equivalent to the Gaelic ‘gille,’ ‘servant,’ ‘shaven one,’ ‘monk.’”

Gillespie has nearly always been listed as a Scottish sept or family of the Clan MacPherson. It is uncertain when the prefix “mac” was discarded, but it was apparently before any of them arrived in America as there are no MacGillespies listed in the 1970 Virginia and North and South Carolina census records. This census, however, does list 17 different spelling variations. Most prominent are Gillespie, Gillespy, Gillaspy and Gilhespy. These variations are also listed in the **Dictionary of British Surnames** (Reaney, Routledge and Kegler Paul, London.)

According to Elsdon C. Smith (**American Surnames**, 1969, Chilton Book Co., Philadelphia), Gillespie ranks 607 amongst the 2000 most used family names in America. He lists an estimated 43,710 persons with the name. This

compares with "Smith," the most common name in the United States with 2,238,400 persons, and Ricks, as number 2000, with an estimated 14,201 persons.

GILLESPIE PLACE NAMES

In West Virginia, the name Gillespie has been applied, according to various Gazeteers, to at least five places: (1) Gillespie Station on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad along Elk River in Holly District, Braxton County; (2) Gillespie Creek, a branch of Middle Wheeling Creek in Ohio County; (3) Gillespie Run, a tributary to the North Fork River in Grant District, Ritchie County; (4) a village near Durbin in Pocahontas County (discontinued prior to 1902) and (5) according to the 1875 **West Virginia State Directory and Shipper's Guide** (Ohio Valley Publishing Company) there was a Gillespieville in Kanawha County at that time.

On a world-wide basis, there is Gillespie County in south central Texas (formed in 1848 and drained by the Pedernales River), the cities of Gillespie and East Gillespie in Macoupin County, southwest Illinois (incorporated in 1869), a village of Gillespie in Arizona, a village of Gillespie in Bedford County, Virginia and Gillespie Point, a mountain in New Zealand. There are also several uses of the name in the mountainous region of Scotland, the apparent birthplace of the family.



Elk River looking towards Gillespie from Flatwoods Run.
[Courtesy Richard H. Ralston, Sr.]

GILLESPIE'S LATE TO ARRIVE IN WEST VIRGINIA

Archeologists tell us that man has had villages in the territory that is now West Virginia for at least 13,000 years. Human activities during this long period of time are not well known, but the area is rich in archeological sites and a record of the State's prehistoric past is slowly accumulating.

Perhaps the first to occupy the territory were nomadic big game hunters who searched out and killed now extinct mammals for food. These people have been labeled as "Paleo-Indian" and their occupation dates to at least 13,000 B.C. Later groups or civilizations have been well documented as being present in 7000 B.C., 4000 B.C., 1000 B.C., 100 B.C., 500 A.D., and 1000 A.D. (Edward McMichael, *West Virginia Archeology*, 1963).

The first described account of a white man seeing what is now West Virginia dates from 1674 when Gabriel Arthur from Fort Henry, while traveling with a party of Cherokees was taken to a village in the Kanawha Valley (**Appalachian Frontier**, John Caruso, 1959). It is possible that the village could have been the Fort Ancient site excavated at Buffalo on the Kanawha River in the 1960's by the State Archeological Survey.

Although most history books state that West Virginia was nothing more than a hunting ground for Indians, the abundance of archeological sites belies this. In fact, the State apparently had a heavy population for hundreds of years, but sometime just prior to 1700 these Indians all vanished. European trade goods are often found in the village sites, so some archeologists have theorized that, due to the Indians nonimmunity, European diseases killed them off. Others say that larger Indian nations captured them, but no one really knows for certain just what did happen.

There are no written descriptions of the land that is now West Virginia for the period through the early 1700's, but Benjamin Franklin, in writing of a neighboring area in Kentucky, praised its fertile soil, its mild climate and its limitless hordes of wild game; so, based solely upon conjecture, this area must have been much the same type of unspoiled wilderness.

On August 30, 1716, Alexander Spotswood, then Governor of Virginia, left his capitol with a party to explore the land beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains. After a more or less uneventful trip he eventually arrived in the Shenandoah Valley, a place he later described as the "World's End." The first of anything is always worthy of memorializing; so upon his return to Virginia, he presented a tiny Golden Horseshoe to each man who had accompanied him, a custom which has been revived by the State Department of Education to reward the best eighth grade West Virginia history scholars in each West Virginia county each year. (If you remember, William Allen won one of these awards in Monongalia County.) Others soon continued the exploration begun by Spotswood, some stayed to establish settlements and the western Virginia wilderness began to change.

In 1774, the Governor of Virginia, Lord Dunmore, sent his men against the Shawnee Indians at Point Pleasant in Mason County, a victory that presumably helped to open up the vast western territories. In a diary concerning the march, there is a notation mentioning the finding of plow shares at Point Pleasant; so "modern" agriculture of a sort may have been in existence for some time along the Ohio River. George Washington was one of the first to feel that the area had promise. He made two trips to the Kanawha Valley and left a great deal of source material in the Washington Papers.

In the meantime, settlers from abroad migrated to the more northern settlements and spread out through what is now Maryland, western Virginia and West Virginia. Many of those who ultimately settled in the area that is now present day West Virginia did so after having lived for several years along the Cow Pasture River in Bath County, Virginia, and it is from this area that our ancestors moved to central West Virginia and ultimately to what is now Webster County.

The record of the first white settler in the present Webster County area, if ever preserved, has long since been lost. It is known, however, that John Miller and Henry McQuirter, on September 22, 1784, "tomahawked" a 300 acre land grant along the Back Fork of Elk River above the confluence of the stream (State Land Records). William Doddrell settled along the Birch River in 1799, Colonel Issac Gregory settled along the Gauley River in 1800, John Miller, Sr. settled on his 300 acre grant in 1803, and Benjamin Hamrick settled along the

Elk River about 6 miles above the Lick in 1812 (Mayme Hamrick, **Hamricks and Other Families**, 1939, and William Christian Doddrell, **Moccasin Tracks and Other Imprints**, 1915).

These pioneers were followed by others in rapid fashion until the area began to be "peopled" by the end of the first quarter of the nineteenth century, even though the total number of inhabitants was not very great. In fact, the long distances from house to house must have resulted in great inconveniences and even privation to the settlers.

There were no stores and people desiring "goods" had to travel to Lewisburg, Clarksburg, Charleston or possibly to Summersville or Weston.

According to most accounts, the settlers' cattle lived primarily in the forest and were fattened on the pea vine (we haven't yet figured out which one) and other herbs found in "great" abundance in the woods. Tools were few. Farm implements consisted of an axe, shovel, plow, hoe and mattock and these, along with one or a few knives, guns and powder horns probably comprised the overall total for a family.

Deer, bear and fish were apparently plentiful as were any number of smaller animals and elk and buffalo still roamed the land.

F. J. Baxter, in an article in the **Braxton Gazette** many years later, described the early life as follows:

"When the territory heretofore mentioned was first settled, it was covered with a dense, unbroken forest of heavy timber, which was not only useless to the settler, but was a detriment to him as a farmer, inasmuch as it was difficult to remove from the land desired for tillage, requiring the combined efforts of several robust men to get it together that it might be burned or destroyed. But the settlers were generous and kind to each other and ever ready to assist each other in work of this character. It was, indeed, only through the assistance and combined effort of the settlers that the land was made ready for cultivation at all, as the first settlers were men without means, and consequently the progress of agriculture was slow. The only cereal produced for many years was Indian corn. This grain and the fodder from which it was taken constituted for years the only food, other than that found in the woods, for such cattle and

horses as were kept by the settlers and the grain, when made into meal, furnished the settlers bread.

Up to the year 1820, and even later, the entire population occupied cabins built of round logs and roofed with clapboards held in place by poles technically called weight-poles. The floors consisted of puncheons split from large poplar logs and made smooth on the upper side with the broad axe or foot-adze, and was generally made to fit closely together by hewing or straightening the edge with an axe. The cabin was made comfortable by daubing with clay. It rarely had more than one room, which, in the winter, was lighted and heated by a large wood fire. Carpeted floors were then unknown, but the people were generous and hospitable and the neighbor and the stranger were alike met with a kindly greeting, and around these humble but cheerful hearths were made to feel that life may be enjoyed as well in a cabin as in a palace."



Cabin much like the one described by Baxter. [U.S.D.A. photo.]

FORK LICK TO WEBSTER SPRINGS

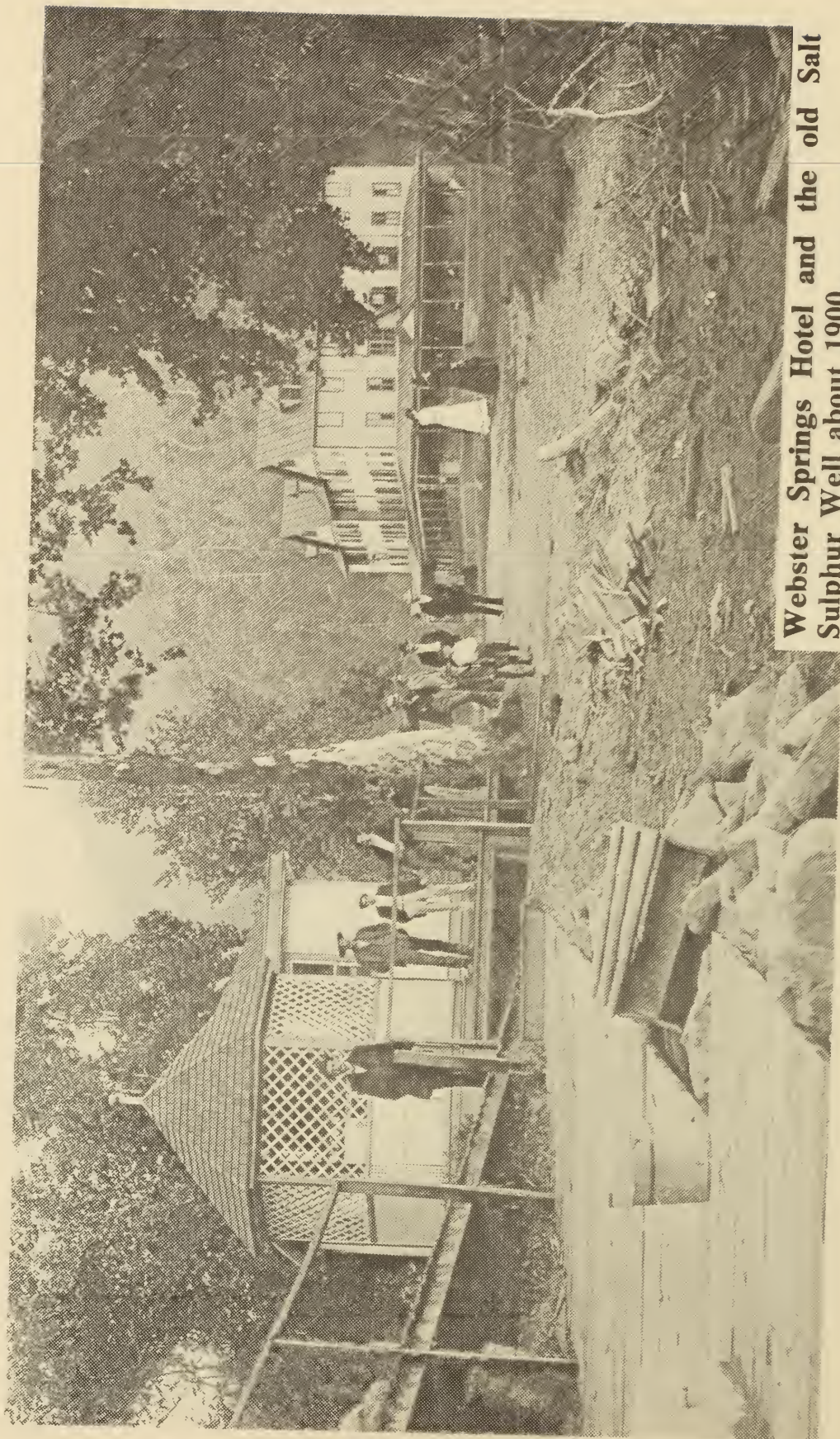
Fork Lick, so called because it is a salt lick where the river forks, was known to the Indians long before the white man made his way across the Alleghenies. They used as their highways the numerous trails which had been created by herds of elk, deer and buffalo on their regular visits to the Salt Sulphur Springs that oozed from the bank of the rivers.

A post office with John E. Hall as postmaster was established near the Lick in 1852. It was called Fork Lick. The name was changed to Webster Courthouse in 1861, to Addison in 1886 and to Webster Springs on April 7, 1902.

John Miller, Jr., and his wife, Mary Sands Miller, were among the very first to build a home in what is now Webster Springs. Addison McLaughlin, a man with various business interests in the central part of the state and owner of the town site, drilled the well that later became known as the Webster Salt Sulphur Spring.



Salt Sulphur well at Webster Springs, 1919. The first building is shown in the left side of the picture. [Photo courtesy W.Va. Geologic Survey.]



Webster Springs Hotel and the old Salt Sulphur Well about 1900.

As to the county, government was exercised from afar in those bygone days and new counties, created to bring government closer to the people, were formed by petition to the commonwealth. According to Sims (1956, **Making A State**) and to Miller (Sampson Miller, 1969, **History of the Miller Family**), parts of the area now in Webster County have belonged to 11 different counties in two states. Briefly, the recent history is as follows: In 1860, Webster was formed from Nicholas, Randolph, and Braxton. In 1861 an amended act was passed to correct the oversight of not naming Braxton County in the 1860 document. In 1862 a small section from each of Greenbrier and Nicholas counties was annexed to Webster.

The influx of settlers building homes increased the population enough to attract attention during the Civil War as is evidenced by a letter from C. B. Conrad published in the **Webster Echo** of April 23, 1909. One passage, mentioning the activities of April 17, 1862, is especially interesting. He says:

“At Addison, Captains Morgan and Murrian’s companies were joined by Captain Darnell’s company from Fort Pickens, Captain Hyer’s company of calvary from Braxton and also by Major Andre and two or three companies of an Ohio infantry regiment that came from Charleston by way of Summersville. All of whom remained at Addison until the next day (Easter Sunday) April 17, 1862. Before leaving, however, they broke up the kettles used in making salt and filled up the old salt well, into which they put a crowbar and other pieces of iron to prevent the making of salt. They also burned nearly all of the few buildings in Addison at that time, after which they departed.”

As the disruptions caused by the war gradually faded away, commerce began to slowly build and it was in this halycon era that Elijah Hedding Gillespie moved from Gillespie in Braxton County to Bergoo in Webster County. Travel was exceedingly slow, but there was talk of a narrow gauge railroad being constructed up Holly River from Holly Junction and over the mountain to Webster Springs and by 1898 a telegraph line was working.

As the railroad talk increased in tempo, Senator Camden, (W.E.R. Byrne, **Tales of the Elk**, 1940) sent George M. Whitescarver of Grafton and Charlie Mayo of Upshur County

into Webster Springs to buy "Uncle Bob Townsends" property. "Uncle Bob," however, valued his land very highly; so they settled for the bottomland along the Elk River just above its junction with the Back Fork of Elk.

Rumors of the railroad were now becoming fact as is shown by a note in the **Echo** of October 12, 1900, which states:

"Do not forget the Holly River and Addison Railroad is going to be built. Crossties are now being gotten out."

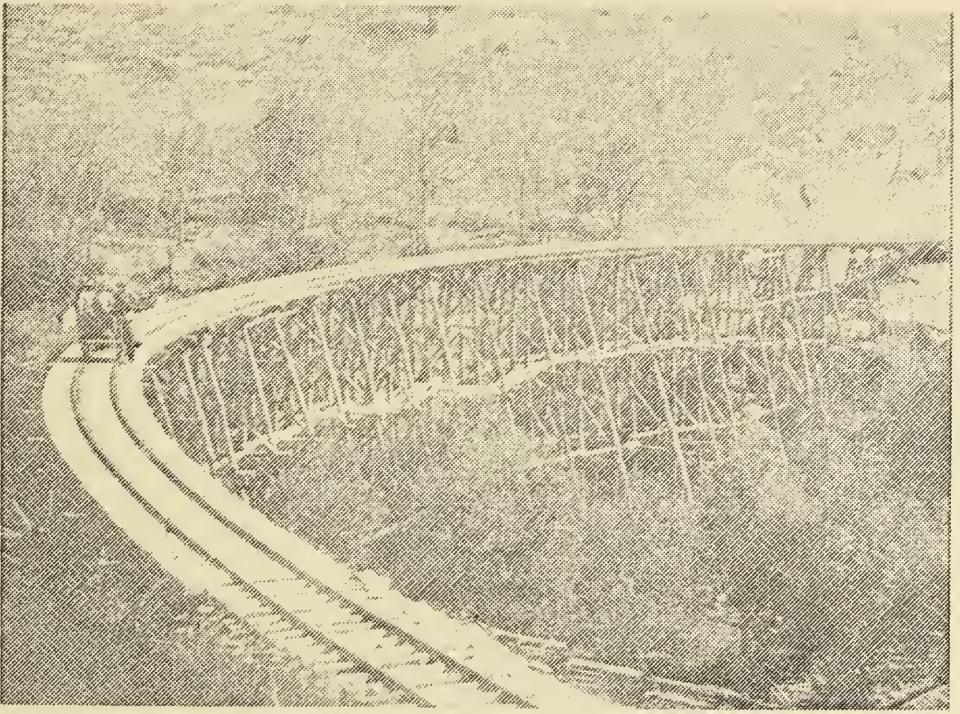
A hotel was started on the grounds in 1897. It was built to cater to those who wished to take advantage of the Salt Sulphur Springs and the restful mountain environment.

The spring waters were bottled and sold in far away places as the reputation of the hotel spread and as the railroad came closer to becoming a reality the town fairly buzzed with activity. Finally, on May 23, 1902, the **Webster Echo** carried a brief note saying simply:

"Steel laying has been completed and the trains are now running to Addison. A regular passenger train will be put in on Monday."

This signaled the beginning of a 15 year boom. It is said that there were 31 hotels in existence in the town at one time. Among the better known were the Curry House, Skidmore House, Wooddell House, Rutherford House and the Oakland Hotel.

On October 1, 1902, the Webster Springs Sanitarium Company was chartered for the purpose of "conducting" a hospital, hotel and electric plant. Progress was indeed being made.



Above, Clifton Trestle along West Virginia Midland Railroad. Below, tracks near the big cut. [Photos courtesy W.Va. Geological Survey.]



THE BEGINNING IN WEBSTER

Elijah Hedding Gillespie, the founding father of our particular tribe of Gillespies, moved from Braxton to Webster County sometime in 1897.

He, however, was not the first of his family to do so. His second cousins, J. M. and Delbert had preceded him and had established themselves; J. M. in a partnership in a general store (see later notes) and "Dell" in a confectionery (Polks Directory of 1900). A note in the Webster County papers sometime in 1950 mentioned that Tom and Georgia Donald were remodeling the home built by her father — the late J. M. "Bud" Gillespie and further stated that it had been built in 1895 with the lumber costing \$200. J. M., therefore, must have moved to Webster sometime in 1894 or even earlier.

Elijah Hedding's sons, Marston and Clarence, your grandfather and great uncle, both remember E. H. saying that his first job in the new territory was teaching school at Bergoo, a fact especially hard to substantiate as the "district" records were not transferred when the "county unit" system was inaugurated and there are no district reports for those years in the State Archives. A search of the county newspapers also gave negative results. There is, however, evidence of a sort, in a photo which proves he participated in a singing school held along with a teacher's institute at Bergoo in 1897 or 1898.

In addition, family tradition "has always held" him to have been a teacher in Braxton County before he moved to Bergoo. This, too, has been difficult to prove with direct evidence as the appropriate records are also no longer in existence. We did, however, find good circumstantial evidence in the **Webster Echo** for December 9, 1898, in which the following paragraph had been copied from the preceding weeks **Braxton Democrat** of Sutton, Braxton County.

"E. H. Gillespie, formerly one of Braxton County's most successful school teachers, but now a prosperous merchant of Webster County, was in town on business."

Thus, although the pertinent records are lost, the photo and the clipping do seem to provide conclusive evidence to substantiate the family tradition that Granddad E. H. started

his adult life not only as a school teacher, but as an exceedingly good one.

From teaching, Granddad, as indicated in the above quotation, moved into the mercantile business. He was associated with J. D. Hamrick at Bergoo and was listed as Postmaster in the R. L. Polk Directory for 1898. The next edition of the Directory lists him as owning a general store in Addison; so the search began anew.

The first clue came from Sampson Miller's **Annals of Webster County** which mentions that Kelly Ben Hamrick moved from the mouth of Leatherwood (Bergoo) to Webster Springs where he built a home and a two-story store, the latter being rented to Morgan Miller for a store and then later to E. H. and J. M. Gillespie. He also mentioned that Eli (Rimfire) Hamrick, a famous Websterite we will discuss later, had a jewelry store in the same building.

With this as a beginning, we began to read more carefully and we soon found that other transactions were involved.

For example, the **Webster Echo** for March 25, 1898, contains the following:

"D. B. Skidmore of Charleston will open up a complete new stock of general merchandise in the Hamrick building about May 1st. Mr. Skidmore is a young man of fine business attainments and will make a success of the mercantile business. He will be assisted in the store by his brother-in-law, Mr. J. M. Gillespie."

On September 23, 1898, the **Echo** reported:

"S. B. Hamrick, trustee, sold the Gillespie stock of goods last Friday (9/16/98) to E. H. Gillespie who will continue the business at the same stand."

We never did find out what happened to Mr. Skidmore, but this sequence of events is how E. H. transferred his interests from Bergoo to Addison although, if one follows the **Polk Directory** as well as the newspapers, he was in business at both places, concurrently, for at least a year. The numerous business interests would seem to invalidate the teaching record, but the school term in 1897 was probably of only four months duration and he could have conducted several ventures simultaneously without undue hardship.

In the February 9, 1900, **Echo** a large advertisement proclaims the fabulous bargains to be had at Gillespies and in a news note states:

“E. H. Gillespie is out again after being laid up for several days with a sore arm, from vaccination. He thinks a case of the disease would not have gone much harder with him.”

This vaccination must have been for typhoid fever as epidemics of the disease were rampant at the turn of the century.

The business continued to prosper and on March 1, 1901, the **Echo** reported:

“E. H. Gillespie leaves today for Baltimore and other cities in the east to purchase new goods for the spring and early summer trade.”

And the following week's edition states:

“E. H. and J. M. Gillespie have returned from the east where they went to purchase a stock of spring and summer goods. They also attended the inauguration ceremonies at Washington, D.C. on the 4th.”

The inauguration referred to was that of President Theodore Roosevelt, the “original” conservationist. This reference to J. M. is the earliest evidence we have of J. M. working for E. H.

As the business continued to grow, E. H. left most of the buying trips to others as is indicated by a quotation from the **Echo** of April 11, 1902, which, in addition, straightens out the question as to J. M.'s status in the business.

“J. M. Gillespie left Monday for Baltimore and other eastern cities to purchase a stock of spring and summer goods for E. H. Gillespie.”

Numerous notes in the “local” columns indicated that E. H. was quite a sportsman. He would go on hunting and fishing trips throughout the year and often stayed for periods of up to two weeks.

For example, the **Echo** of November 22, 1900, states:

“E. H. Gillespie, Eli Hamrick, J. W. Woodell, Delbert Gillespie and C. C. Hamrick of this place and George Fitch of Fairmont are up on the head of Leatherwood in search of big game.”

A later issue had the following:

“Eli Hamrick and E. H. Gillespie went to the pines on Leatherwood for a week or so.”

And later:

“E. H. Gillespie has returned from the pines on Leatherwood with a fine deer, his second for the season.”

His sporting interests continued as a news note in the **Webster Republican** for October 20, 1915 states:

“E. H. Gillespie and Emmett Bennett while squirrel hunting got a plenty of squirrels and three fine turkeys. Pretty good for one evening.”

The first public use we could find of E. H.’s nickname, Hed, appeared in the November 22, 1901 **Echo** as follows:

“Jim Woodell, Eli Hamrick, Head (sic) Gillespie and Bud Gregory have gone to the mountains in quest of big game.”

And in the next weeks paper a note reported:

“E. H. Gillespie, Eli Hamrick and others in the hunting party killed seven deer.”

Although it breaks the chronology of the story, this is perhaps the place to note that some animals were already being hunted to extinction and the virgin forest was being cut. For example, the **Webster Echo** of May 21, 1909, describes a yellow poplar 34 feet in circumference at 5 feet above the ground. The note says it exceeded 11 feet in diameter and that it was 50 feet to the forks.

On September 16, 1910, the **Echo** reported:

“E. W. Forinash who lives on the A. R. Miller farm on the Back Fork of Elk River, three quarters of a mile from town, Monday morning killed a young bald eagle which had been hovering in that vicinity for several days feasting off of young chickens. These eagles years ago were quite numerous in this section, but are rarely seen at the present time.”

A passage in **Moccasin Tracks and Other Imprints** (William Christian Doddrell, 1915) says the last elk was killed in the county about 1815 by a man named Cottle who jumped it at Chestnut Bottom Ford on the Elk River above Bergoo and, after securing help, chased it to the vicinity of Straight Creek on the Gauley River where it was killed.

W. E. R. Bryne in **Tales of the Elk** says a poplar log cut at Webster Springs in 1873 to float to Charleston was 8 feet in diameter. It got only to the mouth of Little Sycamore Creek by 1879 and in 1885 could be seen on Wood Island approximately 30 miles above Charleston where fishermen had used it as a back log for their fires.

On March 19, 1909, the **Webster Echo** reported an eagle being killed on the Back Fork of Elk with a wingspan of 8 feet 10 inches.

The last buffalo in the area was killed by Colonel Isaac

Gregory about 1815. It was jumped near the top of the first level of Point Mountain (Buffalo Bull Knob) and chased to Valley Head where it finally succumbed (**Moccasin Tracks and Other Imprints**).

A note in the county papers in 1898 recorded that three gentlemen had “captured 412 speckled trout in Bergoo Creek.”

Finally, the last wolf in the area was killed by Stofer Hamrick on January 9, 1897. It was “started” on Point Mountain and chased back and forth for several days between where it was “jumped” and the town of Pickens. Stofer was only 17 and the County Court decided to not pay the \$100 bounty which had been advertised. As a consequence, he procured A. G. Hamrick as his guardian and E. H. Morton as his attorney and sued the county. A brief note in the April 6, 1900 issue of the **Echo** says:

“A. G. Hamrick, guardian of Stofer Hamrick, vs. County Court of Webster was tried before Justice R. C. Ferrell at Sugar Creek. It will probably go to the Circuit Court.”

The court finally paid the bounty as a recapitulation by Mr. Hamrick in the **Webster Republican** in 1941 so states.

The “nature” of Webster County will be described in next year’s volume, but these notes indicate how man rapidly changed the flora and fauna.

As we turn again to the Gillespie chronology, we can only theorize that the years 1902 and 1903 were spent in building up the business and in sparking the girls, because E. H. was one of the town’s most eligible bachelors. The county papers report little of his life style, but each weekly edition of the county newspapers did contain a sprinkling of short ads for “bargains at Gillespie’s” hidden away among the “locals” with an occasional one-eighth page extravaganza.

As to the girls, family tales are plentiful, but as with so much “tradition” proof is often lacking. Grandmother Mary once told the story of “Hed” dropping her off at church and of then taking Laura Hamrick for a boat ride on the “Hotel” hole before returning for her when the services were over. A photograph taken near the hotel at least substantiates that he did associate with Laura who later became Mrs. Cherry Woodzell.

But Grandmother Mary, who had worked for several years as a cook and maid for Senator and Mrs. E. H. Morton,

finally won. Grandfather probably fought the good fight, but he finally succumbed to cupid's arrow and Grandmother's wiles because the **Echo** on December 4, 1903 contained the following item:

"On last Sunday evening, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Morton, Reverend Theophilus McCoy performed the ceremony that united in marriage Mr. E. H. Gillespie and Miss Mary I. Hamrick. The groom is one of the town's most prominent young businessmen and his host of friends are congratulating him upon securing for a life partner such an excellent young lady as Miss Hamrick who is a daughter of the late Squire Adam G. Hamrick of Bernardstown."



Mary I. Hamrick



E. H. Gillespie

As the years went by, Granddad did extremely well as a businessman. He prospered and your father remembers Austin "Aus" Elbon telling him years ago, probably in 1943, that he had seen Granddad take a day's receipts to the bank in an orange crate. We could mention other similar remarks, but the text of an ad Granddad ran several times in the **Webster Echo** during 1909 is really a good summary of his store activities. It reads:

"As to groceries, we claim to have the largest stock in the town of Webster Springs and the highest grades offered in the markets. We don't handle low grade foodstuffs and never allow anything in our line to become stale. If you bought it at Gillespie's, its a guarantee that you got the very best to be had and paid no more for it than an inferior article would cost you elsewhere. A trial will prove to you that we talk straight."



Elijah Hedding Gillespie [with hat] and Laura Hamrick in hotel bottom, about 1902.



Singing school at Leatherwood School [Bergoo] for Webster County teachers. Person in middle of group of three in back row is E. H. Gillespie.

In October, 1910, the **Echo** reported:

“The boiler, engine et cetera for E. H. Gillespie’s incline railroad have arrived and he will soon be prepared to furnish coal to the people of the town.”

The mine alluded to was in the Sewell seam on the hill across the Back Fork of Elk River from the main part of town. A description of the mine appears in the West Virginia geological survey volume on Webster County (1920).

Granddad also bought and sold timberlands, building lots, owned part of a telephone system, manufactured bricks in the bottom at the up-river side of the community of Cherry Falls and engaged in all types of general merchandising.

The **Webster Republican** for August 20, 1914, lists him as a member of the Addison town council. Fellow members were B. S. Woodell, Warwic Gum, Elbon Cogar and the Mayor, W. A. Thompson. Minutes of the meeting indicated they met in the “Gillespie” building. Minutes of the meeting for August 1, 1916, listed the same members as meeting in the “Chambers.”

A sample ballot printed in the **Webster Republican** for June 6, 1916, listed E. H. Gillespie as a democratic candidate for the Fork Lick District Board of Education against J. D. Given and E. A. Gregory of Bolair. He was nominated as is proved by a 1918 yearbook which has a photo with a caption listing him as the retiring member (cover photo). He had, however, worked many years before this for better schools and was classed as a member of the “Town Ring” by those opposing the sale of bonds for a high school.

In addition, he gave liberally of his time for patriotic functions and the **Webster Republican** for October 18, 1917, lists him as a member of the Webster County Liberty Bond Campaign Committee.

As business increased, Granddad had to secure larger quarters and, as nothing larger was then available for rent, he decided to build his own. The **Webster Echo** of March 22, 1912, contains a note stating “E. H. Gillespie has commenced work on the foundation of his new store house.”

He built it “as he went” or in other words he purchased the materials and then hired carpenters to put them in place. As a consequence, no one seems to have any idea as to how much the building cost, but it must have been a rather large sum for the time, probably in the neighborhood of \$10,000.

Many tales have been told about the building of the store. One of the more interesting concerns the scaffolding which was erected as the four story, high-ceiling building was built. According to numerous witnesses the workmen, as they were dismantling it, found only a single 8-penny nail holding the top level to the building. Another true tale concerns the chief carpenter, Riley Watson, leaving a hammer under the platform forming the floor of one of the display windows. Some people believed it over the years and some didn't, but, when the window was removed in 1945, the same carpenter found his hammer—a fact that can be corroborated by several witnesses, including your father and grandfather and your great uncle Arnold Frazee.

As the new store went up, E. H. began to make plans to move and on August 16, 1912, an entire page in the **Echo** was devoted to an advertisement extolling the bargains to be had at the Gillespie sale.

The sale was conducted by the American Special Sales and Salvage Company of Washington, D.C. who had sent Harry M. Forest to Webster Springs to personally conduct the extravaganza. According to the ads, the sale ran for 10 days—beginning Wednesday, August 12, 1912 at 9:00 a.m.

Perhaps we should mention that sales were not as plentiful then as now. In fact, Granddad's first sale, he called it an inventory "clean-up sale," hadn't been held until January 29, 1910.

Anyway, the special sale went on with banners proclaiming the \$10,000 worth of high grade merchandise that was being offered. Thirty extra sales people were hired and, as a special inducement, free railroad fare was paid for all out-of-town customers purchasing more than \$10 worth of merchandise. In addition, the first 25 men and the first 25 women each day received tickets good for 25c in merchandise.

At the end of the first week, the papers carried ads reiterating that the sale would close on Saturday, August 31st and that even the "fixtures would be sold."

Everything apparently progressed well with the new building because the **Webster Republican** for April 3, 1913 carried the notation "Eli Hamrick, with brush and paint, is giving the finishing touches to the Gillespie building. It is a splendid job, a testimony to Eli's mastery of the painter's art." That same fall Eli painted the courthouse and jail.



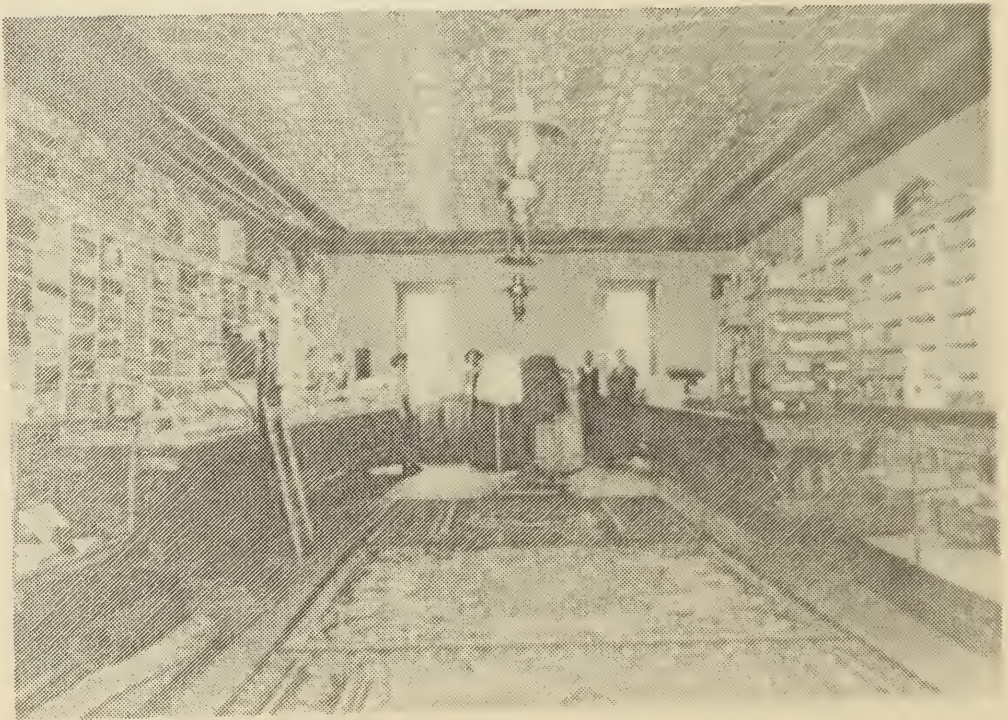
Gillespie sale, \$10,000 stock of goods.



Webster Springs about 1919. The new store is behind court-house square and church in the upper center part of the picture.



E. H. Gillespie "New" Store Building.



Interior of "dry goods" section of Gillespie store.

On May 1, 1913, the same paper mentioned that Mr. L. L. Dyer "is moving his office from the Dorr Building to the new Gillespie building on main street." At about this time, J. M. "Bud" was accepted as a partner and made manager of the "dry goods" section. Both J. M. and E. H. were strong personalities and disagreements were often voiced. J. M. eventually left the business.

In the early 1920's the economy of the county began to weaken, a post script to World War I and a forerunner to the tremendous depression of 1929-1936. As a consequence, the store business began to fall off.

In 1928, Watson Given purchased an interest in the store. The new ownership ran ads in the county papers every week for the "G and G Store at the old E. H. Gillespie stand." Given apparently sold out sometime in 1929 as the ads stopped about midyear.

In 1931, Granddad sold his remaining stock to a Mr. Puckett who kept the store going for only a short while before removing the stock to his store on Leatherwood three miles from Bergoo.

The closing out of Granddad's business activities was a crushing blow to a man of 67 who had worked extremely hard all of his life, and who should have been able to retire in luxury. His retirement was one of living in the homeplace on Union Street, of walking daily to the store building and of trying to keep the taxes paid.

In the early 1940's, the store building, residential and other properties in Webster County were sold at a trustees sale to his sons Clarence and Marston. The store building was later sold to Hugh Ferrell, a beer distributor, who still owned it when it was consumed by fire in 1959.

During the period under discussion, Addison had grown from a sleepy little town catering to the needs of pioneer farmers into a booming resort town where attraction centered upon the Salt Sulphur Springs. A large 75 room hotel was started by Senator Camden and B & O interests in 1897. In 1903 it was sold to John T. McGraw who renovated and greatly expanded the structure to a total of 300 rooms, 75 with bath, which made it the largest frame structure and the second largest hotel in the State. Unfortunately, the trade began to slacken with World War I and the hotel never regained its once elegant status. Soon the county papers ceased publishing lists of the guests on a week by week basis

and the deterioration accelerated.

McGraw died on April 29, 1920. On August 11, 1920, the property was sold to C. S. Riggs of Fairmont for \$38,000. In 1925 Riggs sold to the Webster Springs Company composed of John M. Hoover, Dr. William York of Huntington and Senator A. Blaine York of Washington, D.C. It was operated intermittently, usually at a loss to the proprietors, for some years. On July 20, 1925, between 9:00 and 11:00 p.m., the building burned to the ground. Fortunately, all 17 guests managed to salvage their belongings. On Saturday, July 27, 1925, the 27 acres of property were sold as lots. In a sense this signalled the end of the tourist boom which had changed a "butter and eggs" town into one known nationwide as a resort area.

As to the big hotel, endless stories have been told and embellished over the years. There are two statistics, however, that indicate the size of the establishment. The hotel's ice house had a capacity of 150 tons and the vegetables eaten by the patrons came from a three and one-half acre garden which "Hink" Cogar raised on the grounds. In addition, the management maintained their own cows for milk and beef and they raised their own pork and chickens.

Some time ago we became interested in running down the sequence of events that led to the building of the hotel and ultimately to the fire. The following letter written to the editor of **The West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia** contains much of the information.

March 4, 1974

Mr. Jim Comstock
West Virginia Heritage Encyclopedia
c/o The West Virginia Hillbilly
Richwood, West Virginia 26261

Dear Jim:

I have been bothered for some time about the date on which fire destroyed the old Webster Springs Hotel. Ever since I can remember, I have heard varying dates and times. In fact, you once published a picture with a caption indicating it burned in the early 1930's. Others have said 1924, 1926, 1929 et cetera.

Well, to shorten the story, I have been polishing a manuscript on the history of my family and associated events in central West Virginia and felt a factual date to be in order. However, a search from 1926 on turned up very little. Then, as luck would have it, my aunt, Bertha Gillespie of Webster Springs, said to try 1925 and, upon doing so, I hit the jackpot!

You may already have this information, but if not, you may wish to revise it for your encyclopedia.

A short note in the **Clarksburg Daily Telegram** of July 21, 1925 mentioned the fire as occurring at 9:00 p.m. on the 20th. It included a discussion of the loss as being \$150,000 with \$51,000 insurance on the building and \$7,000 on the furniture and that there were “300 rooms — 75 with bath.” It concluded by saying they couldn’t get Webster Springs on the wire and a later edition would have the story.

On July 21, 1925 the **Charleston Gazette** carried about two column inches and added that the fire was believed to have started from wiring. Perhaps of more importance is an ad carried in the same paper, nearly a quarter page, offering to sell 150 lots, “part of the Webster Springs Hotel property” on July 25. The ad was by the Johnston Realty Company of Cattlettsburg, Kentucky.

On July 23, 1925 the **Braxton Democrat** carried a sizeable article and mentioned a “special” to the **Clarksburg Exponent**. (I have not yet found this copy of the **Exponent**.) In essence the **Democrat** story related the fire burned between 9 and 11:00 p.m. on the 20th day of July (1925) and was first discovered breaking out of a window of a small room on the fourth floor directly over the laundry and furnace rooms.

The article goes on to say fire hoses were present on all floors, but that there was no water pressure at all on the third and fourth floors and only a very weak pressure on the lower two.

Some furniture was carried from the two lower floors, but everything on the third and fourth was destroyed.

Interestingly enough, all of the furniture belonged to Harry B. Curtin of Clarksburg, according to the article, and, I believe I remember reading somewhere that he had acquired it in a poker game.

The author was brief as to the history of the building, “the largest frame structure and second largest hotel in West Virginia,” but mentioned it being started by Senator Camden who sold it to John T. McGraw in 1903. McGraw extensively renovated the existing hotel and added considerably to it. The hotel and 27 acres of land were sold at McGraw’s death to “John M. Hoover of Webster Springs and a Mr. York of Huntington.” Hoover was quoted in the article as saying he had about 25 guests, who all escaped unhurt, and enough reservations to fill it up in August.

Finally, the **Braxton Central** of July 24, 1925 in a sizeable article added the fact that the owners were John M. Hoover and “Senator York and his brother Dr. York of Huntington.”

This article said 17 guests had been present, a lot were booked for August and that the hotel had cost McGraw \$125,000. Also, that the town was fortunate as there had been no wind and so the town was spared. It tells of Dr. Allen moving his furniture out under a walnut tree, but of moving back in again by midnight.

Perhaps most interesting to me was the discussion of the hotel as being “for a number of years one of the most popular mountain resorts” but that it had “stood idle for some years back with occasional attempts to operate, but most of which, it is understood, was at a loss to the promoters.”

Jim, you may have this information, but if not, lets preserve it somewhere. It’s certainly interesting to me and it helps me greatly in my attempt to describe those halcyon days in Webster.

Sincerely,
William H. Gillespie



Webster Springs Hotel about 1908.

PRE-WEBSTER ANCESTRY

It has proven to be quite a job to trace the family history of Elijah Hedding Gillespie. His son, William Marston, remembers him saying his folks were from "Cowpasture" in Virginia. He, Marston, also remembers riding on the train to Clarksburg, when five years old (1915), for a tonsillectomy and having his father point out the old family homestead near Gillespie Station in Braxton County.

He also knew that his grandfather, Paulser Gillespie, had moved to Webster Springs in his later years and had died there at the home of his son-in-law, George W. Perkins. The date of the death was uncertain, but he thought it had occurred in 1916. An extensive search was undertaken and the following obituary was finally located in the **Braxton Democrat** for November 25, 1915. It was listed as being copied from the **Webster Republican** of a week earlier. Unfortunately, no mention of ancestral relatives is made.

Palser Gillespie

"The death occurred at the residence of Mr. G. D. Perkins, on October 28, of Mr. Palser Gillespie. Mr. Gillespie was a native of Braxton County and was 77 years of age. He married Mary Squires, widow of Jake Hyer of Braxton County. The funeral was conducted Saturday at Newville and the burial was under the direction of E. S. Hamrick of Starcher and Hamrick of this town.

The deceased is survived by Mr. E. H. Gillespie and Mrs. George W. Perkins of Webster Springs and Mrs. Flora Skidmore of Braxton County. He was a successful farmer all his life until several years ago he retired active pursuits on account of illness, and for the last year has been a great sufferer. We extend our sympathy to those who mourn his loss." —**Webster Republican**.

The spelling of Paulser's name in his obituary was "Palser," but on page 483, volume 9 of the Braxton County Deed Books he signed as "Paulser" when he and his wife Mary on June 4, 1867, sold \$400 worth of land to Griffin Gillespie.

The obituary indicates that Paulser was born in 1838 and died in 1915. The Perkins residence mentioned was on the "dairy farm" property on Back Fork, formerly the lower Miller Bottoms and now (1974) the farm and home of E. Hansford McCourt.

The "Hardesty" volume covering Braxton County (1883) does not list Paulser Gillespie nor does **The History of Braxton County and Central West Virginia** by John Davison Sutton or the **Annals of Bath County, Virginia** by Oren Frederic Morton.

A visit to the Braxton County courthouse to check the death record to see whether the parents were listed was futile, but microfilmed records in the Department of Archives and History in the State Capitol at Charleston do have the record of his marriage and listed the information as:

"Palser Gillespie, age 23, married Mary Hyer, age 26, on November 17, 1861. Marriage performed by John L. Rhea."

Volume one of the marriage records of Braxton County has since been lost and so there is no way to check the names of the parents. The typescript we checked had been signed in the 1930's and listed only the above information which had been copied from the book.

The Civil War caused a gap in the Braxton County records from 1860-1865 so the birth of their first son, Elijah Hedding (October 13, 1862), was not recorded. However, Paulser did record the birth of "Phebe" as occurring on July 20, 1865. (It was at her home that he later passed away.) The birth of their third child, Flora, was apparently not recorded, although her grave stone in the Newville Cemetery near Newville in Braxton County lists her birth and death as 1868-1954.

As to the marriage, the obituary mentioned that Paulser's wife, Mary, was the widow of Jake Hyer. This is correct and Granddad talked often about his halfbrothers Frank and Jake. A good summary of some of this information is found on page 392 of Sutton's history which states:

"Jacob Hyer, son of Christian and Judy Sirk Hyer, born 1828, owned a farm on the Elk River near Hyer. He married Mary, daughter of Eliga (sic) Squires. She was born in 1837. They were married in 1849. Their children were Ellis, B. F., and Jacob."

The Ellis is in error in the quotation as Ellis was the brother of Jacob Sr. and not a son. He was married to Clara Wheeler and had two sons and a daughter of his own.

The "B. F." or Benjamin Franklin mentioned in the paragraph was undoubtedly Frank. Your grandfather,

Marston, distinctly remembers driving Granddad E. H. to Newville in 1930 to attend Frank's funeral. The trip was made in a "Durant" roadster borrowed from a friend, King Cogar. A stone in the Newville Cemetery records Frank's birth and death as 1855-1920. The **Braxton Central** for May 23, 1930 carries his obituary.

It is hard to reconcile the various birth, marriage and death records. For example, Sutton's account says Mary Squires was born in 1837 and married in 1849 which, at 12 would be a tender age even for the early 1800's. Her daughter, Flora, had a stone set at her grave in 1952. The inscription has the dates 1839-1916 for Paulser and 1831-1907 for Mary. The first is incorrect by a year as Paulser died in 1915 and as his obituary says he was 77, he was born in 1838. The date for his wife is probably correct. If she was born in 1831 she would have been married at the age of 18 which is a much more plausible figure than the 12 years implied by Hardesty. This leaves only the marriage papers with a different date and they state she was only three years older than he when the application was made, instead of seven, but such "errors" are made even today.

The next important question involved the name of Paulser's father. Although Sutton's history lists John Gillespie from Cowpasture in Bath County, Virginia, as being the first Gillespie to locate in what is now Braxton County, it does not list Paulser as a descendent. Nor does Morton's **Annals of Bath County** add to the chronology even though numerous Gillespies are listed from about 1725 on. Morton, however, does list a John Gillespie as being deeded land on Stuart's Creek in Bath County sometime between 1769 and 1795 and another, perhaps a son, as marrying Comfort Griffith in 1798. It is this John (John II) that moved to Hacker's Valley on or about 1830 and to Upper Flatwoods soon after.

John (II) had four sons and two daughters—William, John, Adam, Tramel, Betsy and Becky. We can find no record of what happened to Betsy or Becky. A paragraph in Sutton's history says Tramel migrated to Illinois in 1849 and family tradition says he was never heard from again. William is prominently mentioned in Morton's history and both Adam and John (III) are described as raising families in West Virginia. An interesting sidelight is that, although

brothers, Adam and John spelled their name differently. Adam apparently preferred "Gillaspie" whereas John kept the spelling "Gillespie."

Helen Gillespie, the daughter of Clarence and Bertha, in talking to Phebe and Flora in the early 1940's wrote Paulser in as a son of John in Clarence's copy of Sutton's history. This raised another question because your father had been told as a youth that Granddad E. H. and J. M. were first cousins and Sutton plainly says that J. M. is a son of Adam which would complicate the facts.

To recapitulate, Sutton's **History of Braxton County** lists John Gillespie as progenitor of the family. His son John had several children, one of which, Adam (born 1809), married Nancy Morrison. This union was blessed with several children, and one, Jeremiah H., married Almira J. Posey. The resulting third generation children were Benjamin F., James M. and Allie (twins), John D., Delbert, Minnie, Lydia G. and Martha L. We have not been able to locate the graves of either John (II) or his wife Nancy.

Jeremiah H. is buried in the old Morrison Cemetery on Morrison Ridge in Braxton County. According to the tombstone, he was born on October 13, 1835 (records say at the old Gillespie homestead near Morrison Siding) and he died March 30, 1928. His wife Almira J. was born on March 18, 1838, and died at Flatwoods on February 2, 1892, after a brief illness. She is buried in the same cemetery.

According to the April 5, 1928, edition of the **Braxton Democrat**, Jeremiah H. had become ill with old age and had been sent to the Weston State Hospital for treatment. He died in this facility at the age of 93. The obituary goes on to say he had enjoyed reading the Bible all of his life and that he had read it through ten times in addition to his other incidental and/or haphazard reading.

The article also said he was survived by one sister, Mrs. Julia Lloyd of Exchange and by J. M. of Webster Springs; Delbert of Philadelphia; Mrs. George Lynch of Buckhannon; Mrs. Minnie Cutright; Mrs. Lydia Morrison and Mrs. Susan Hyer.

After the death of his first wife, Jeremiah H. married Mrs. Elizabeth Friel. She lived two years longer than her husband having, according to a note in the **Braxton Democrat**, passed away in their home on Laurel Fork in

Braxton County on November 9, 1930 at the age of 90. Her survivors included Mrs. Maggie Waught of Roanoke, Mrs. Bell Horner of Walkersville and Mr. Sherman Friel of Sutton.

James M. or "Bud" was born in 1864, and he passed away in February, 1937. The **Webster Republican** for February 26, 1937, says he was buried in the Baker's Run Cemetery in Braxton County and that his widow was Mary E. Skidmore Gillespie. She was born in 1870 and died in 1959.

Their oldest child, Herbert J., was born on December 17, 1896 and died on October 27, 1921. He is buried with his parents in the new Braxton County cemetery near the Sutton airport, the graves having been transferred there during the construction of the Sutton Dam on Elk River. A second son, born in August 1899, died in October, 1899 at the age of three months. The remains were interred in the Conrad Cemetery at Webster Springs. A third son, Hermann, married Hazel Gregory (who some years after his death married Sam Rubenstein) and is buried in Clarksburg. A daughter, Georgia, born in 1895 married Thomas H. Donald, himself born in 1893.* Georgia was in the first class graduating from Webster Springs High School and later taught English at the same school. Your authors and many of your cousins had the pleasure of attending her classes.

The 1898 county papers record that J. M. had just opened a feed stable near his residence, that horses left in his care would "have the best of attention" and that "Mrs. Mary E. Gillespie desires to inform the public that she will conduct a first class boarding house this season."

Elijah Hedding was the grandson of John, so he and James M. were second instead of first cousins as family tradition would tell us. The genealogies are John - Adam - Jeremiah H. and James M. in the one case and John - John - Paulser and Elijah Hedding in the other (Elijah Hedding incidentally is named after his grandfather Elijah Squires and a family of Heddings who lived in Braxton County at that time).

Although the second cousin relationship seemed firm, it took a set of fortuitous circumstances to really overcome any doubts. The visit to the Newville cemetery prompted a visit

* Mr. Donald died in 1974.

to a nearby home to see if anyone knew the approximate date on which the stone had been erected. The occupants of the home proved to be Mr. and Mrs. Paul Skidmore, the son and daughter-in-law of Flora B., E. H.'s sister. They knew all about the stone and related that Flora had had it erected.

We asked for the name of Paulser's father, but they were hesitant to give an answer. Mrs. Skidmore, however, said she believed Paulser and the Reverend J. Y. Gillespie had been brothers. She also said that Flora in "cleaning out drawers" one day threw a small Bible containing family history away because "no one would be interested in it" and she believed it had contained the only recorded record of the family.

The conversation continued as several phone calls were made to older residents of the area, but confirming evidence could not be found. Then Paul suggested we go to visit Mrs. Jane Perkins Lewis, a resident of Newville born in 1896 and a good friend of the family. This we did and she unhesitatingly told us that Paulser and J. Y. had been brothers. I stopped searching at this time because it confirms the circumstantial evidence provided by Paulser and J. Y. being buried in the Newville Cemetery whereas Adam and his tribe are buried in the Morrison Cemetery on Morrison Ridge. Both Sutton's history and the Hardesty volume say J. Y. is the son of John; so as a consequence of this information, the genealogy can now be traced back to John Gillespie in Braxton and on back to John Gillespie the 1st and 2nd of Bath County, Virginia with the whole confirming Helen Gillespie's notes entered years ago in the margin of her father's copy of Morton's history.

The Reverend J. Y. (Jonathan Young) Gillespie, son of John and Rebecca Morrison Gillespie, was born May 15, 1842 and died March 14, 1928.

During the Civil War he volunteered for service in the 9th West Virginia Infantry and was wounded at the battle of Cloud Mountain. He entered the ministry after the war and in 1869 married Naomi Hyer. In 1875 he married Sarah J. Skidmore who died in 1915. He had two children by the first marriage and seven by the second. He and his family are buried in the Newville Cemetery..

Paulser and Mary had three children—Elijah Hedding, Flora B. and Phebe.



Main road Cowen to Webster Springs, 1910.



Left, Pheobe Gillespie Perkins. Right, Flora Gillespie Skidmore.



Store at mouth of Flatwoods Run. The original store building is the gable end under the flag. The run is just behind the building running into the river at the left. [Photo courtesy of Richard H. Ralston, Sr.]

Flora B. (1868-1954) married James L. Skidmore (1864-1925). They are buried in the Newville Cemetery as is their son Earl B. (1896-1920). Survivors at this time include Hobart, Jesse, Paul and Arden. Paul lives at Newville, Arden is in California and Jesse lives in Clarksburg.

Phebe married George Perkins and had Lawrence, Clarence, Frank and Ethel. She also had a son to Carl Lang before this marriage. (A record in the Braxton County Courthouse lists Gorrell Gillespie as being born to Phebe Gillespie in November 1892 although the boy apparently went under the name Carl Lang throughout his life.) Phebe and George are buried in the Point Mountain Cemetery in Webster County about 10 miles from Webster Springs. The graves are on the left side of the church (south) as seen from the highway.

Inconsistencies in the record are what makes genealogical research interesting. We believe, however, that we should point out a certain type of problem—that of believing the written record is always correct, because it often isn't. People do make mistakes and some make more than others. For example let's use the books cited above as references—the volumes prepared by Hardesty, Morton and Sutton. The first two are similar because both were prepared by people seeking profit. People **purchased** their way into a **Hardesty volume** and **Morton** traveled here and there writing county histories after a minimum of contact with the areas he described. Both leave out those families and individuals who had no desire or possibly no funds to purchase space. Sutton's history was written when he was at an advanced age and apparently didn't have the time to do a good proofing job. For example, consider the bottom of page 380 where the main heading "Benjamin Skidmore" is really Benjamin Gillespie as a reading of the text indicates. (Edward Gillespie now of Parkersburg (1974) is a nephew of Benjamin's.)

We have used these examples to show what can and perhaps what did happen in several instances. Let us, however, be the first to say that these books and others like them are the mainstay of genealogical research. History just couldn't do without them. They are classics of their kind, but please remember that even classics contain inadvertent errors. Check the data thoroughly and then use only what

you can verify. The remainder is valuable only as it lends a flavor to history and indicates the style of the times.

To recapitulate and perhaps add a little, Elijah Hedding was born in Braxton County on October 13, 1862, the son of Paulser and Mary Squires Gillespie. He spent his early days near Gillespie in Braxton County. This Station on the B and O Railroad is about 8 miles east of Sutton and is presently covered by the waters impounded by the Sutton Dam. The name for the village originated because Adam Gillespie had a grist mill just below the mouth of Ben's Run (as so listed by Sutton) for many years. (The date of Adam's death is lost, but his estate was appraised on May 14, 1877.) He ground wheat and corn and had an up and down saw. The area was therefore appropriately called Gillespie Mills. Later, just after the Civil War, Adam's son, Griffin, put up a store and sold goods at the mouth of Flatwoods Run (also listed by Sutton). The place was just as aptly named "Slabtown" for the slabs left behind by Adam's sawmill although it was later called "Gillespie." "Hyer" came into being as a village about a mile above Gillespie and is usually quoted as being the post office with "Gillespie Station" as being the place.

The mill was water powered and a story on page 261 of Sutton's book describes a hickory tree put in the Gillespie Mill dam several years before the Civil War and which was used for "cog wheels" 40 years later when James F. Gillespie, Adam's son, removed it.

GENEALOGY OF WEBSTER COUNTY GILLESPIES THROUGH DIRECTLY RELATED FAMILIES

THE HAMRICKS*

PATRICK

The Hamrick family is one of the real pioneer families of Webster County; so it serves admirably as a starting point for the Gillespie's.

Although the necessary records have been lost, circumstantial evidence indicates the Webster County Hamricks are descendants of Patrick Hamrick who moved to Virginia from the Maryland colony sometime prior to 1740. This is substantiated by a deed on record in Richmond at the State Land Office which states that Patrick Hamrick obtained a land grant of 118 acres in Prince William County from Thomas Lord Fairfax on December 10, 1740.

A poll of Burgesses indicated he was a landowner and more than 21 years of age in 1741.

Records of his marriage, if any, were lost during the Civil War, but tradition has it that he fathered 12 sons, one of whom was probably Benjamin Hamrick.

BENJAMIN I

Benjamin Hamrick, the probable son of Patrick, married Mary Sias. Very little is known of this marriage although a son, Benjamin (II), was born about 1755 in Prince William, now Fauquier, County, Virginia. Pertinent records are in Book E, p. 194, in the Virginia State Land Office, Richmond, Virginia and in Virginia Will Book I, page 386.

BENJAMIN II

War Department records of the Revolutionary War in Washington, D.C. show that Benjamin Hamrick (II) enlisted in November 1775 and served until 1781. Ross B. Johnson in **West Virginians In The Revolution**, 1959, page 122, says he served in broken enlistments (Va. No. 2579, No. S5472) under Captains Chilton and Shelton, Colonels Mercer,

*Mayme Hamrick's book, **The Hamricks and Other Families, Indian Lore**, was used as the major source of material on the Hamrick Family although all major events were rechecked as a hedge against typographical errors.

Stephen and Marshall and Generals Weeder, Woodford and Muhlenberg. He started his enlistment in the Third Virginia Regiment, Continental Establishment and later served in the Regular Continental Army.

He was present at the capture of Trenton on December 26, 1776 when Washington crossed the Delaware; at Princeton on January 3, 1777; at Brandywine on September 11, 1777; at Germantown on October 4, 1777; at Valley Forge, December, 1777-June, 1778; various other places; and at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown on October 19, 1781.

According to Johnson (above citation) he applied for a pension on September 7, 1832 and received approval beginning on December 1, 1832. The papers were submitted by Samuel Prince of Nicholas County with the supportative signatures of Joseph McMillion, Joel Hamrick and Benjamin LeMaster. In his affidavit, Joseph McMillion states that Benjamin Hamrick married his sister in 1779.

A paragraph on page 127 of H. H. Hardesty's volume on **Braxton County**, under the name of Seth Franklin Hamrick, says Benjamin Hamric (sic) served throughout the Revolutionary War in the Calvary. It also says he married Nancy McMillion in eastern Virginia and that they settled in Greenbrier County about 1785 and later on Elk River in present Braxton County near what became Frames Mill. Consequently, he could have been the first settler on this part of Elk River. The exact location of his home is disputed, but it was either at the present location of Frametown downstream from Gassaway or near what is now the Birch River post office as both were apparently "Frames Mills" near the turn of the century.

In 1838 Benjamin moved to Webster County to live with his son Benjamin (III) who had settled on Elk River in 1812. He died in 1842 at the age of 87 and is buried in a cemetery located about 800 yards south of the old home site, now the Franklin Hamrick farm, approximately six miles up Elk River from Webster Springs.

As far as is known, Benjamin Hamrick is the only Revolutionary War veteran to be buried in Webster County. His son Benjamin Hamrick (III), a private in the Fifth Regiment, Virginia Military, War of 1812, is also buried in this cemetery.

Thus it is that the Hamricks of Braxton, Webster, Randolph and Pocahontas counties are descendants of Benjamin Hamrick (II), a soldier who fought throughout the American Revolution. The specific records which would prove his grandfather to be Patrick have been lost, but ages and events do point to that conclusion as Mayme Hamrick so brilliantly describes in her book.

Benjamin and Nancy McMillion Hamrick had a family of eight sons and three daughters. They included the above mentioned Benjamin (III) of the 1812 War, William, David, Peter, Enoch, Cyrus, Joe, John, Sarah and two daughters whose names have apparently been lost. They may have died at a very young age.

The line of descendents leading from the Hamricks to the Gillespies is developed below. Three of the boys, Benjamin, William and David were pioneers in Webster County. The former two settled about six miles up the Elk River from Webster Springs while the latter settled nearly 20 miles up the river at Whittaker Falls.

WILLIAM

William Hamrick, born to Benjamin (II) and Nancy McMillion Hamrick in Greenbrier County, Virginia, in 1789, enlisted in the War of 1812 with his brother Benjamin (III), at Beverly, Randolph County, Virginia. William was discharged on December 15, 1814, but his brother was not released until January 27, 1815. William, a famous and celebrated hunter, died rather suddenly about 1850 while on a business trip in Nicholas County and is buried on a farm there. We were unable to locate the grave.

William married Jeanette Gregory (1796-1873), the daughter of Colonel Isaac and Sarah Given Gregory on May 4, 1813. They had eleven children.

1. Nancy, born March 17, 1815, married Benomi Griffin in 1834 and had 12 children. She moved to Salem, Harrison County, West Virginia in 1862.

2. Isaac, born May 9, 1818, married Margaret Griffin and had six children. He lived to be 93 years old.

3. Sarah, born June 16, 1820, married William Benjamin Doddrell and had nine children. They moved to Nebraska in 1874 where both are buried.

4. Elizabeth, born August 2, 1822, married James Cogar and had six children.

5. Mary, born September 28, 1825, married William C. Doddrell and had four children.

6. Rebecca, born July 7, 1827, married James Walton Doddrell (son of John) and had 13 children. Their seventh child, William Christian Doddrell, is the author of the well known book **Moccasin Tracks and other Imprints** (1915).

7. Adam G., born September 4, 1829, married Rebecca Mollohan (born 1827) in 1850. They had six children. In 1862 they moved to Randolph County where Rebecca died. He married Elizabeth Hamrick in 1864 and fathered eleven more children. (Mary Isabel, the sixth child of the second marriage later married Elijah Hedding Gillespie, the patriarch of the Gillespie clan in Webster County.)

8. Rachel, born February 27, 1832, married Arthur Bickel. They went west and the descendants are unknown.

9. Benjamin, born May 11, 1834, died 1906, married Naomi Mollohan on January 1, 1856. They had 14 children.

10. Isabel, born June 9, 1836, married George Martin Doddrell (son of John) and had nine children.

11. William G., born June 16, 1838, married Elizabeth Hamrick in 1867 and had six children. In a second marriage he wed Rebecca Hamrick and had five more offspring.

ADAM G.

Adam G. Hamrick, who served a term as Justice of the Peace, 1865-1869, was nicknamed "Squire Adam." He married Rebecca Mollohan (October 7, 1827 - May 18, 1862) in 1850. They had six children. In 1862 they moved to Randolph County where Mrs. Hamrick died. In 1864 he married Elizabeth Hamrick (1843-1934) and fathered an additional 11 children. The children from the first marriage were:

1. Martha Jane, born August 25, 1851, married Benjamin Franklin Hamrick (June 20, 1843-1895) and had 7 children. She died in 1904.

2. Lucinda, born August 25, 1853, married Adam G. Hamrick (born 1849) the son of Peter and Nancy Gregory Hamrick. They had five children.

3. Susan, born May 14, 1856, married Moore Hamrick (April 15, 1849-November 13, 1938) on whose property the

original Point Mountain Reunion was held. They had five children. She died in 1924.

4. Luverna, born March 5, 1858, married Adam Hinkle Hamrick who died in 1895 when a sled slid over the hill pulling he and his horses to their death. They had four children.

5. Emma Ellen, born December 14, 1859, lived only until March 4, 1862.

6. James Lee, born January 14, 1862, married Harriet Payne.

The 11 children of the second marriage were as follows:

1. Naomi, born October 4, 1865, married George Payne.

2. Emma Elon, born June 15, 1867, died February 21, 1937, married Alfred M. Payne in 1885. They had four children—Ida, Sherman, Orlando and Ray.

3. Harriet, born July 18, 1869, married Creed Riggleman. They had Homer and Omer, twins, and Leonard.

4. Nancy P., born May 28, 1871, died in 1890.

5. Rebecca S., born April 26, 1875, married Theodore Gregory and had two children, Lee and Masie.

6. Mary Isabel, born December 22, 1874, married Elijah Hedding Gillespie and had three children.

7. Wallace, born October 27, 1876, married Nancy Gregory and had six children.

8. Willis, born January 4, 1879, married Etta Gregory and had seven children.

9. Watson, born March 12, 1881, married Harriet Gregory and had three children.

10. Margaret Diana, born May 3, 1884, married Calvin Brady and had eight children.

11. Almarinda, born June 26, 1889, died in 1890.

Mayme Hamrick, in her book, **The Hamrick and Other Families**, says that Margaret had the family Bible. However, in asking her son, Sylvester, about the Bible, he said it had been sold at auction and that another son, Eskeridge, had bid it in for \$25.00. When Eskeridge's son, James Marston, was asked about the Bible's whereabouts, he replied it was in an old trunk of his fathers at his brother's home near Pickens, West Virginia. He was kind enough to make it available and the records from it have been included herein. Benjamin's Bible is the property of Miss Portia Hamrick.

This ends the genealogy of the Hamrick family as it relates to the Gillespies of Webster. Beginning somewhat questionably, due to lost records, with Patrick Hamrick, the line is traced six generations through his son Benjamin to Benjamin (II) to William to Adam G. and finally to Mary Isabel who married Elijah Hedding Gillespie.

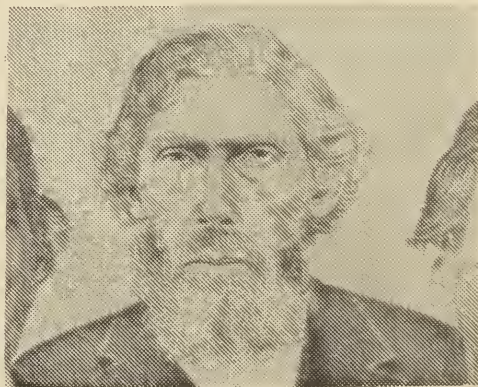
The relationship of the Hamricks to what is now Webster County began long before the county was formed. Benjamin Hamrick (II) moved to the area in 1812 and settled on the north side of Elk River about six miles above Webster Springs. His brother William settled near him. On December 8, 1851, an election was held in Webster Springs, the first in that village, to decide the formation of a new county. There were 19 votes in all and all were affirmative. Benjamin voted in the election and his son, Addison, was acting clerk. Either things moved more slowly in those days or everyone had more patience because a petition was not presented to the Virginia Assembly until December 1859 (House of Delegates Journal 1859-1860, Virginia General Assembly). The county was established on January 10, 1860.

Benjamin and his family helped erect what is thought to be the first school house in Webster County in 1835. It was in the vicinity of Wolf Pen Run on Elk River.

The first recorded church services in the county were held in Benjamin's barn in 1833 by Addison Hite. Methodist services were held quarterly thereafter. The original building is still standing in 1974, 141 years later. Several stories revolve around the Bob Doddrell still, the last licensed still in Webster County, being stored in the second story of this barn for a period of time after prohibition was established.



“Betsy” Hamrick



“Squire” Adam Hamrick



The Adam G. Hamrick home. Portion on left side from chimney to end was added in early 1900rds as was the weatherboarding over the original logs.



Benjamin Hamrick barn where church was held in 1833. Shed and weather-boarding added in 1900rds.

THE GILLESPIES

Elijah Hedding (October 13, 1862-October 14, 1945) married Mary Isabel Hamrick (December 22, 1874-March 22, 1947) in Webster County on November 29, 1903. They are buried in the Miller Cemetery, about three miles up Back Fork River from Webster Springs. They had three children Clarence Ward, William Marston and Alfred Ford.



**Left, Elizah Hedding and Mary Isabel Gillespie [1936].
Right, Clarence Ward and William Marston Gillespie [1947].**



Clarence Ward Gillespie



William Marston Gillespie



E. H. Gillespie home in Webster Springs. Mr. & Mrs. Gillespie and son Clarence are in the picture.

CLARENCE WARD

Clarence Ward was born September 16, 1905, in what is now (1974) called the Amos Bird house behind the Oakland Hotel in Webster Springs. He married Bertha May Baughman (born August 30, 1903), the daughter of Christopher Columbus and Harriet Cummings Baughman of Bolair, on December 14, 1922. Clarence retired in the 1960's as an electrician for the Ford Motor Company. Bertha retired in the early 1970's as a practical nurse. They had 10 children as follows:

1. Eugene Harry, born February 23, 1923, married Helen Elizabeth Gray (February 20, 1915) of Morgantown on August 19, 1948. They have no children. Eugene spent the years 1942-1945 in the Air Force and in 1948 was called back to the Reserves for duty in Korea. He is a millwright for Olen Mathison (Oro-Met) and resides in Woodsfield, Ohio.

2. Helen Clarencetine, born April 5, 1925, married Shirley Dean Hufford (July 11, 1926), the son of Shirley and Dellie Cox Hufford of Pulaski, Virginia, on September 13, 1949. They have two children, Thomas Dean, born in Pulaski, Virginia on September 3, 1950, and Helen Jane, also born in Pulaski, on December 28, 1951. Shirley works for Inland Motors in Radford, Virginia. They reside in Pulaski.

3. Edmond James, born February 15, 1927, married Nancy Frances Cool (May 12, 1929), the daughter of Alphonse "Tater" and Dora Sears Cool of Webster Springs in Washington, D.C. on June 5, 1954. "Jimmie" served in the Navy from January 18, 1945 to July 18, 1946 and participated in the occupation of Japan. He presently owns and operates several business enterprises and has extensive real estate holdings in Webster County and in Florida including a service station, a taxi service and a bulk oil plant. He serves on the Board of the Webster Springs National Bank and is a past member of the Webster Springs City Council. Thus, his career closely parallels that of his grandfather, Elijah Hedding. Nancy is the elected Webster County Clerk. They have no children. Their residence is Webster Springs.

4. Willa Louise, born June 10, 1928, married Bill Ray Varney (February 22, 1928), the son of Lunda Basil (September 8, 1900 - March 21, 1970) and Ella May (September 3, 1901-) Williams Varney of Stone, Kentucky on November 10, 1961 in Corbin, Virginia.

Bill Ray was Chief Engineer at the Wise, Virginia, Appalachian Regional Hospital (ARH). He later became Maintenance Foreman at the South Williamson, Kentucky ARH and is now (1974) Superintendent of Buildings and Services at the Harlan, Kentucky ARH.

Louise graduated from the Berea College School of Nursing, Berea, Kentucky, as a registered nurse in 1950 and completed the post graduate course in Ward Management and Teaching at the Margaret Hague Maternity Hospital in Jersey City, New Jersey in 1952. She was obstetrics supervisor at the Huntington, West Virginia, Memorial Hospital for 8 years and was obstetric team leader at the South Williamson, Kentucky, Appalachian Regional Hospital an additional 8 years. She resigned in April, 1966.

They have three children, Jennifer Louise, born September 24, 1963 in South Williamson, Kentucky;

Jonathan Ray, born April 7, 1966 in South Williamson, Kentucky; and James Ward, born June 25, 1967 in West Virginia. Their present residence is Harlan, Kentucky.

5. Marietta Lucille, born June 5, 1930, married Chester "Cubby" T. McCoy, the son of Walsie and Meda Hammons McCoy of Webster Springs on January 21, 1951. Cubby works as a long-distance truck driver. Lucille, a graduate of the Elyria School of Cosmetology has worked as a beauty operator, a comptometer operator, as a secretary and in general plant work. They reside in Elyria, Ohio with their two children, James Michael, born May 24, 1952, and Suetta Jean, born December 11, 1960.

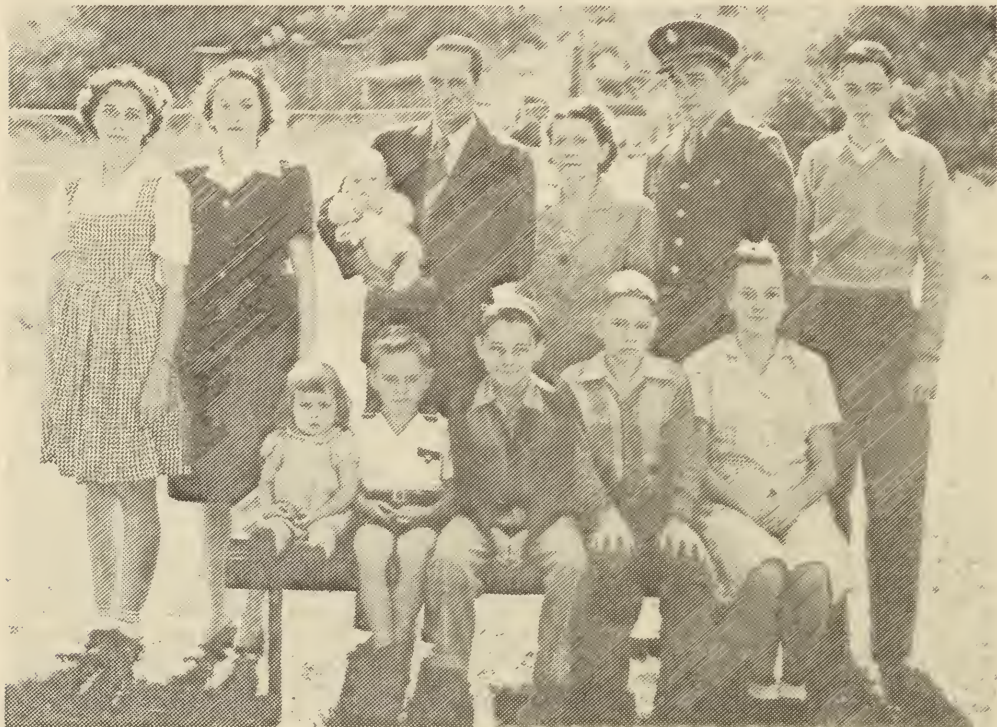
6. Elijah Bernard, born November 3, 1931, married Arretta Jane Summers, the daughter of Loren Vane and Edity Grace Morgan Summers of Fairmont on June 5, 1960. "Bunny," a graduate of the National Meatcutting School pursues his trade in Cincinnati, Ohio. Arretta, a graduate of Fairmont State Teachers College, formerly taught high school English and Latin. They have two children, Jeremy Ward, born October 9, 1961, and Gilbert Vane, born June 23, 1963. Arretta is a relative of Ephraim Franklin Morgan, the 16th Governor of West Virginia.

7. Paul Felix, born August 20, 1934, is a highway engineer in Cincinnati. He is unmarried.

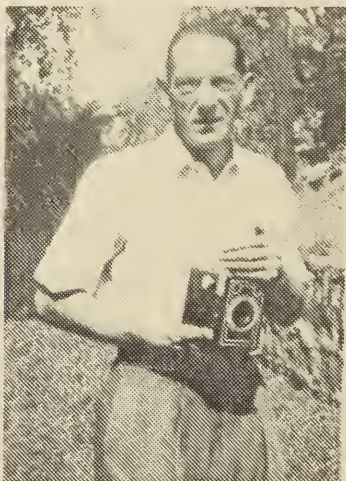
8. David Marston, born August 19, 1938, married Frances Yvonne Row (July 2, 1942), the daughter of Alva and Glenna Row of Junior, West Virginia, on August 23, 1965. Both are graduates of Glenville State College and David has a graduate degree from the University of Indiana. Their daughter, Erica Sue, was born on February 5, 1969. David is the Librarian at Glenville State College and is the present Mayor of Glenville (1974). William Jackson, Yvonne's grandfather, although now 96 years old, still preaches at Junior, West Virginia.

9. Rebecca Samuelene, born October 25, 1942, married Jack Queener, the son of Leland and Ruth Dillon Queener on April 21, 1962. They had two children, Jack Perry, born November 11, 1962, and James Scott, born February 21, 1969. On September 15, 1972, she married Hanson Lynch (March 31, 1924). Hanson has a daughter, Judy, by his previous marriage. He is a carpenter by trade.

10. Bertha Caroline, born May 23, 1944, married Melvin Cochran, the son of Leslie and Virgie Cochran of Diana, West Virginia, on August 21, 1964. Melvin is an automobile dealer in Cherry Falls. Caroline is a graduate of Morgantown Beauty College and is self-employed as a hair stylist. Their son, Max Wayne, was born February 12, 1965.



Clarence Gillespie family in early 1940's. Seated [L-R]: Rebecca Samuline, David Marston, Paul Felix, Elijah Bernard, Marietta Lucille. Standing [L-R] Willa Louise, Helen Clarencetine, Bertha Caroline, Clarence Ward, Bertha May, Eugene Harry and Edmond James.



Clarence Ward Gillespie



Bertha May Gillespie



Bertha and Clarence Gillespie on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Four generations [L-R]: Harriet Starcher, Tommy Hufford, Bertha Gillespie, Helen Hufford.



Right to left, Clarence Ward Gillespie and his sons, Eugene Harry, Edmond James, Elijah Bernard, Paul Felix and David Marston.

ALFRED FORD

Alfred Ford was born in 1907. He lived only five days and is buried in the Hamrick Cemetery at Webster Springs.

WILLIAM MARSTON

William Marston, born December 11, 1910, married Rosalie Geneva Frazee (August 15, 1910), the daughter of Harry and Laura Casteel Frazee, on June 12, 1929. Marston worked as a bookkeeper for the Pardee & Curtin Lumber Company in Webster County, in defense plants in Ohio, in various coal mines, as a surveyor's helper and as a real estate appraiser for the West Virginia State Tax Department, the job from which he retired on December 31, 1973. Rosalie worked as a bookkeeper for Pardee & Curtin at the No. 4 Mine, as a store clerk in Webster Springs, as a clerk for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, as hot lunch supervisor for the Webster County Schools and as a teacher in the Vocational Technical School at Bergoo, the position from which she retired in June, 1974. She attended Marshall University and the West Virginia Institute of Technology.

They have three children, all born in Webster Springs. They are:

1. William Harry (born January 8, 1931) married Betty Jean Rasnick (born May 1, 1930), the daughter of Allen and Clara Leota Counts Rasnick, on December 23, 1950 in Jerrysville, West Virginia. They have five children, William Allen, born September 22, 1951; Linda Marlene, born December 16, 1952; Clifton Paul, born June 18, 1955; James David, born August 4, 1960*; and Laura Lee, born September 10, 1961. All five children were born in Morgantown, West Virginia. William Allen married Susan Carol Stahl, the daughter of John H. and Marjorie Stahl of Durham, Connecticut on June 15, 1974. He is a graduate of Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut and is enrolled in the medical school of the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, Virginia. Linda is a graduate of Ripon College in Ripon, Wisconsin and is a teacher in the Ripon Public Schools. Clifton works in the Kanawha Valley Bank in Charleston, West Virginia. Laura is at home.

2. George Frazee, born February 28, 1933, married Rosemary Hammond (June 23, 1935), the daughter of Derward and Bertha Studivan Hammond of Webster Springs, in Memphis, Tennessee on August 28, 1959. They have three children, Jan Elizabeth, born October 28, 1962; John Marston, born April 5, 1966 and Joel Russell, born May 1, 1970. All three were born in Bedford, Virginia.

George worked in a Fisher Body Plant in Cleveland, Ohio in 1951. He attended West Virginia University, 1951-1953, spent 1953-1955 in the Army, worked on Great Lakes shipping in 1956, attended Wesleyan and Glenville Colleges in West Virginia and did graduate work at the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee. He practices in Bedford, Virginia. Rosemary graduated from Glenville State College and has taught the first four grades in a two-room school at Grassy Creek, the fifth grade in Frederick, Maryland, civics and physical education in Webster Springs High School, and the fifth grade in Arkansas, in West Memphis and in Bedford, Virginia.

*James was killed in an automobile-bicycle accident in Charleston, W.Va. on November 5, 1974 at the age of 14 years, 3 months and 1 day. His remains were scattered over Point Mountain.

3. Patricia Sue, born January 13, 1935, married Jennings Dale Hamrick (November 23, 1931 - September 4, 1969) the son of Murry and Maude Phillips Hamrick of Bergoo in Webster Springs on April 23, 1955. Their children are Connie Sue, born April 14, 1956; Ronald Dale, born April 13, 1957; Cynthia (stillborn) born February 28, 1958; Karen Diane, born January 14, 1960; Jennings Daniel, born January 10, 1961; and Peggy Louise, born October 6, 1962. Connie was born in Clarksburg, the others in Webster Springs.

Jennings spent 1952-1954 in the Army (Okinawa). He followed various occupations dealing with the operation and maintenance of heavy construction equipment and was an ordained minister with a pastorate in Nutter Fort, West Virginia. He died in a rock fall September 2, 1969 which occurred while "scaling" (knocking down rock with the dipper of a power shovel) a high wall on a strip mine operation near Clarksburg. He is buried at Bergoo, West Virginia. Patty married Robert Butcher of Fairmont, West Virginia on June 22, 1974.



Valeria Ashby, Arnold Frazee, Francis "Bus" Frazee and Rosalie Gillespie. 1973 at the Lazy G.



**Clarence & Marston,
E. H. & Mary I.**



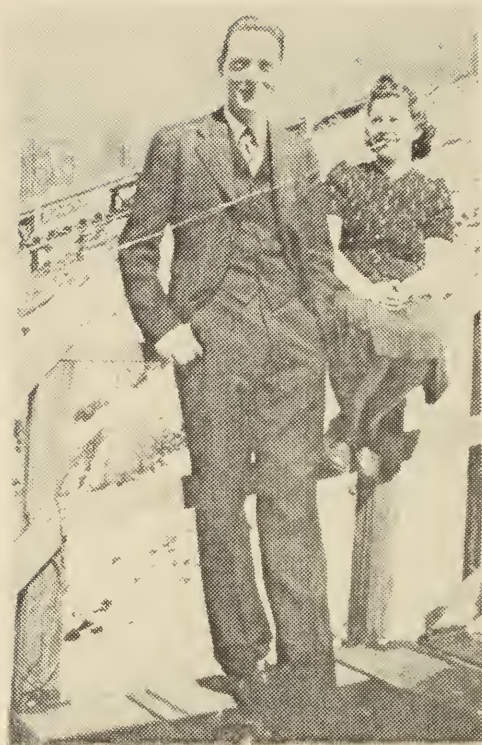
Rosalee Frazee Gillespie



**Rosalie Geneva
Frazee Gillespie**



William Marston Gillespie



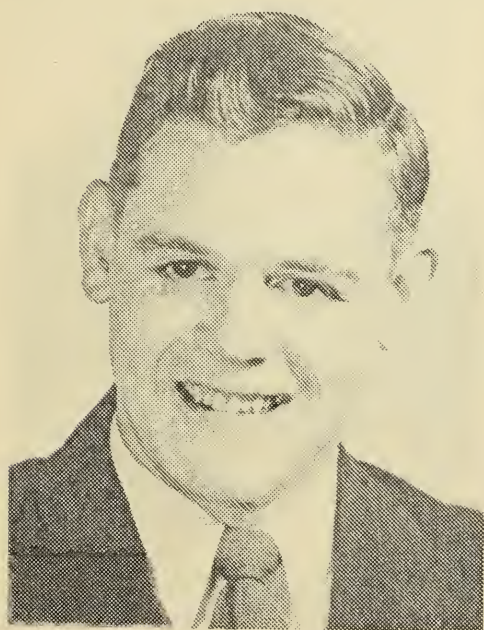
**William Marston and Rosalie
Geneva Gillespie about 1937,
Byers, W.Va.**



**Left to right, Patricia Sue, George Frazee,
William Harry Gillespie.**



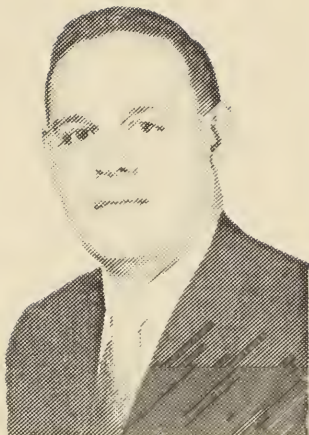
**Left to right, William Harry, George Frazee, Joel Russell
and William Marston Gillespie, 1975.**



**William Harry Gillespie
1947**



**Betty Jean Gillespie
1947**



William Harry Gillespie Betty Jean Gillespie



William Allen Gillespie

Clifton Paul Gillespie

Linda Marlene Gillespie



James David Gillespie

Laura Lee Gillespie



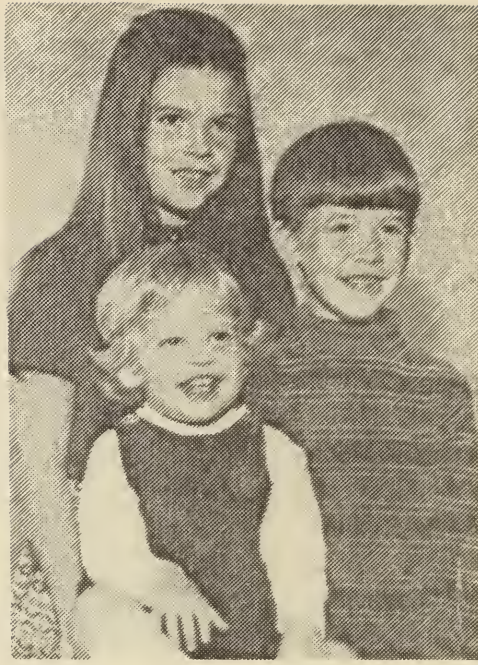
Patricia Sue Gillespie



Jennings Dale Hamrick



Patricia Sue and Jennings Hamrick's children—[L-R], Front: Connie Sue, Karen Diane, Peggy Louise, Jennings Daniel. Back: Ronald Dale.



Children of George and Rosemary Gillespie. Front to rear, Joel Russell, John Marston and Jan Elizabeth.



George Frazee Gillespie



**Rosemary Hammond Gillespie
with John Marston**



1973 reunion. [L-R] Front, William M. Gillespie, Dwight Allman, Rosalie Gillespie, Laura Lee Gillespie, Margaret "Billie" Frazee, Francis Frazee, Betty J. Gillespie, Arnold Frazee. Back, Leontine Frazee, Mary Ann Allman, Clifton Paul Gillespie, James David Gillespie.

THE FRAZEES

History tells us that the Frazees are supposed to have originated in France where Rene Frezel had an estate in the province of Anjou. Rene's son, Simon, moved to the British Isles at the time of the Norman Conquest and settled in Scotland. The Jacobite rebellion in Scotland forced several family members to flee to France where Frazee was adopted as a surname.

The genealogy of the family as it relates to the children of William Marston and Rosalie Frazee Gillespie is traced six generations through Ephraim I, Jeremiah, John Jerry, Jasper J., Harry and Rosalie with reasonable accuracy and with some doubts through eight generations beginning with Joseph Ephraim and through one of his sons to Ephraim I.

Although we can probably never be certain, Joseph Ephraim Frazee, born about 1640 in Scotland or England, is supposed to be the first Frazee to come to North America. In 1665, he is known to have taken the oath of allegiance in Elizabethtown, New Jersey. In his will, he refers to his wife, Mary Osburn, and to his sons Edward, Eliphalet, Samuel, John, Elisah, Joseph and Isaac.

EPHRAIM I

Ephraim Frazee I was born in New Jersey about the year 1700. A reprint from the January 10, 1935 **Mountain Democrat** of Oakland, Maryland by Charles E. Hoyer states him to be the son or grandson of Joseph Ephraim Frazee the immigrant. In view of the will mentioned above, it is more probable that he is a grandson, although this can only be a supposition.

Ephraim Frazee I was married three times and fathered at least 19 children. In 1747, he, according to Hoyer, was listed as one of the original members of the Baptist Church of Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

The names of his wives are apparently unknown. By his first marriage he fathered Miriam (1729), Martha (1731), Ephraim (1733), David (1737), Rachael (1739), Hannah (1742), Mary (1744), Elizabeth (1747) and Jeremiah (1749).

His second marriage resulted in the births of Thurman (1752) and Samuel (1753).

Children by his third marriage are Anna (1757), Deborah (1760), Ephraim (1762), Squire (1764), Sarah (1766), Moses (1770) and Aaron (1770).

Ephraim Frazee I and his sons were apparently among the first white settlers in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, Preston County, Virginia (now West Virginia), Garrett County, Maryland and Mason County, Kentucky.

JEREMIAH

Jeremiah, the last son of Ephraim I and his first wife, was born in New Jersey in 1749. Hoyer states he is buried in an unmarked grave in the Frazee graveyard which is located on his old farm on Buffalo Run in Garrett County, Maryland. Buffalo Run, a tributary of the Youghiogheny River, drains the northwest corner of Garrett County.

There appears to be no record of his wife, but his children have been listed as Elisha (1800-1874), Isaac (1803-1881), John Jerry (1805-1879), Johnathan (1808-1865), Polly (birthdate unknown) who married John E. Frazee, and another unknown daughter. The descendants of each of these are listed by Hoyer in the January 10, 1935, issue of the **Mountain Democrat**.

JOHN JERRY

John Jerry Frazee married Elizabeth Stuck. They had 11

children, Andrew J. (1838- ?) buried at New Baltimore, married Sarah A. Price; Catherine (1840-1908), married John Markley and later Philip Moyer; Perry (1842-1865); Elizabeth (1844-1863); Jane (1846-1916), married Jackson Fike; Harrison (1847-1875); Jasper J. (1851) married Elizabeth Hileman; Saville (1854-1928) buried at Friendsville, married Walla Schlossnagle; Jonas (1855-1902) married Rose Hazley; Charles F. (1858) buried at Friendsville, Maryland, married Mary Fike and later Mary Hazley; and Dennis W. married Snowbella Nevergold.

JASPER J.

Jasper J. married Elizabeth Hileman (born 1856) the daughter of Hiram and Cynthia Anne Hileman and had three sons, Harry (May 19, 1878 - April 19, 1969); John (August 12, 1880 - April 27, 1973); and Oden (April 4, 1898 - July 9, 1969).

HARRY

Harry Frazee (May 19, 1878 - April 19, 1969), born in Selbysport, Maryland, married Laura Vern Casteel (March 19, 1883 - May 13, 1961), the daughter of Archibald and Margaret Ellen Sterling Casteel of Elder Hill, Maryland on July 1, 1904 in Cumberland, Maryland. They had 10 children of which four boys died at or soon after birth. One buried at Deer Creek was named Randall Lee. Another was Glenn. The other two were probably unnamed. Those living include Arnold Casteel (April 27, 1905, Selbysport, Maryland); Rosalie Geneva (August 15, 1910, Selbysport, Maryland); Valeria Bernadette (January 13, 1916, Deer Creek, Pocahontas County, West Virginia); and Francis Noel, (April 4, 1918, Raywood, West Virginia). Lois (December 17, 1927 - July 25, 1927) died of spinal meningitis and is buried at Arbovale.

ARNOLD CASTEEL

Arnold Casteel married Leontine Watson (January 12, 1912-), the daughter of Riley Richard and Lela Maud Conrad Watson of Webster Springs on April 26, 1931. Arnold was a master carpenter and a noted Boy Scout Master. He is retired in Phoenix, Arizona.

They have two children, Mary Ann (May 24, 1932-) and Larry Richard (January 25, 1935-). Mary Ann married Dwight Allman (born July 22, 1922), the son of Lloyd D. and

Florence Lewis Allman of Arlington, West Virginia. They have two children, Sharon Kay born on November 9, 1953 in Webster Springs and Landon Duane born on June 3, 1955 in Buckhannon. Dwight, a licensed surveyor, is an estimator for the Monongahela Power Company. Mary Ann is an accountant for an automobile dealership in Cherry Falls.

Larry Richard married Vivian Hamilton (born February 5, 1939), the daughter of Bence and Lillian Williams Hamilton of Camden-on-Gauley on April 6, 1958. They have three children, Danny Allen (October 9, 1959), Richard Scott (June 7, 1962) and Carol Lynn (January 12, 1969). All three were born in Phoenix, Arizona where Larry is employed as a master carpenter. He served in the Army from April 1954 to March 1957.

VALERIA BERNADETTE

Valeria Bernadette married Cecil Edward Ashby, Sr. (born May 3, 1917), son of Cleveland Edgar and Ethel May Edwards Ashby of Horton, West Virginia on February 15, 1941 in Bel Air, Maryland. He spent the period from April 18, 1941 to September 9, 1945 in the Army and is a buyer for a wholesale hardware firm in Baltimore, Maryland.

They have three children, Cecil Edward Ashby, Jr., born October 16, 1945 in Cumberland, Maryland; Gary Allen Ashby, born June 10, 1947 in Crofton, Maryland; and Michael Lin Ashby born March 1, 1953 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Cecil Edward, Jr. married Barbara June Jackson (February 25, 19), the daughter of Robert and June Jackson Carpenter on December 15, 1962 in Oakland, Maryland. (Robert was a casualty of World War II.) They have two sons, Cecil Edward Ashby III born January 14, 1966 in Houston, Texas and Robert Dale Ashby, born August 15, 1968 in Houston, Texas. Eddie is a chemical engineer from West Virginia University and has worked in Houston, Texas. He is presently employed in New Jersey.

Gary Allen married Gail June Miller (born November 6, 1948), the daughter of Martin W. and Grace Harley Miller Hillar of Bloomfield, New Jersey on April 13, 1973 in Crofton, Maryland. He is a graduate of Frostburg State Teachers College and taught 2-1/2 years at the Richard Henry Lee School in Glen Burnie, Maryland before leaving

to join the Levenson Klein Furniture Store of Baltimore, Maryland where he is assistant manager.

Michael Lin Ashby is (1974) engaged to Donna Kammer (born March 1, 1953), daughter of Joseph and Lucille Kammer of Glen Burnie, Maryland.

FRANCIS NOEL

Francis Noel "Bus" married Margaret "Billie" Bennett (born June 8, 1919), daughter of Homer and Ruth Candis Cline Bennett of Bergoo on January 23, 1937 in Webster Springs. He worked for 21 years as a tippie operator for Pardee & Curtin Lumber Company at Mine No. 4 in Byers and is now an acid plant operator in Charleston, South Carolina. Billie is a supervisor at the Charleston Air Force Base Cafeteria. They have two sons, Francis Forrest and Michael Noel.

Francis "Rusty" Forrest married Myra Legg (), daughter of Harry Eugene and Reva Hardley Legg of Webster Springs on May 11, 1962. They have four children, Michael Forrest born on December 13, 1963 (died February 5, 1964); Bradley Forrest born on October 30, 1965; Eric Lee born on September 6, 1967 and Andrew Scott born June 23, 1972. Rusty is a technical sergeant in secret administration in the Air Force.

Michael married Victoria Ann Gilley, the daughter of James and Ann Gilley of Fairfield, California on November 7, 1970 in Reno, Nevada. They have one daughter, Carrie Ann, born July 31, 1973. He was divorced March 4, 1974 and married Terrie Ann Ito August 31, 1974 in Saratoga, California. Mike is a staff sergeant in missile supply in the Air Force.

JOHN

John Frazee married Josephine Mahokey (died 1949) and fathered 10 (?) children. These included Alva, Virgil, Laura, James, John F., Evelyn (Mrs. Lloyd Fike), Stella (April 26, 1915 - July 1, 1973, Mrs. Charles Shrum), Clara (Mrs. Donald Duff) and two others. John is buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery in Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

ODEN

Oden Frazee married Gladys Umbel, daughter of Harry and ? Umbel. They had one daughter, Stella. Oden is buried at Friendsville, Maryland.

STERLINGS AND CASTEELS

Relationship with the Sterlings and Casteels of Maryland is through grandmother Laura Frazee whose mother, Margaret Ellen Sterling, married Archibald Casteel.

On May 24, 1850, Robert Sterling (July 21, 1826 - March 30, 1903) married Elizabeth Sisler (September 18, 1830- ?). They had 10 children, Jacob H. (May 12, 1851-February 19, 1858); John Henry (April 9, 1852-August 6, 1914); William Marshall (February 12, 1854-March 17, 1885); Samuel Jackson (died at birth); Margaret Ellen (February 9, 1859-February 7, 1899); Huldah Anne (January 3, 1861-August 12, 1907); Susan Catherine (June 3, 1863-January 1, 1876); Marg E. (January 3, 1861-August 12, 1907); Maria Jane (July 23, 1869-January 4, 1871); and George Washington (January 13, 1872-September ?, 1927).

MARGARET ELLEN

Margaret Ellen married Archibald Casteel (December 15, 1845-March 28, 1907) on September 2, 1877. They had 11 children. Francis Thomas (February 28, 1879-July 22, 1933); Sarah (April 12, 1880-July ?, 1880); Valeria Delphine (March 19, 1881-December 26, 1955); Laura Vern (March 19, 1883-May 13, 1961); Susan Mae (August 4, 1885-June 4, 1886); Lula Ellen (May 20, 1888-May ?, 1940); Rebecca Blanch (March 28, 1889-December 12, 1890); Oscie Jeanette (November 13, 1891- ?); Carrie George (February 14, 1894- ?); Robert Austin (January 18, 1867-January 22, 1908); and Winifred (February 7, 1899-September ?, 1899). Laura is buried at Arbovale, West Virginia, Valeria at Oakland, Maryland and the others at Blooming Rose, Maryland.

Francis Thomas married Elizabeth ? and had no children; Sarah died as an infant; Valeria married Scott Groves and had no children; Laura Vern married Harry Frazee and had four children; Susan Mae died as an infant; Lula Ellen married George Friend and had two children, Donald and Gene; Rebecca Blanch died as an infant; Oscie Jeanette married Claude Griffin (died March 2, 1974) and had three children, Margaret, Helen and Claude, Jr.; Carrie George married Clyde Shipley and had three children, Violet, Ruth and Reid; Robert Austin was killed at age 12 and Winifred died as an infant.



Elizabeth Hileman Frazee.



Harry Frazee



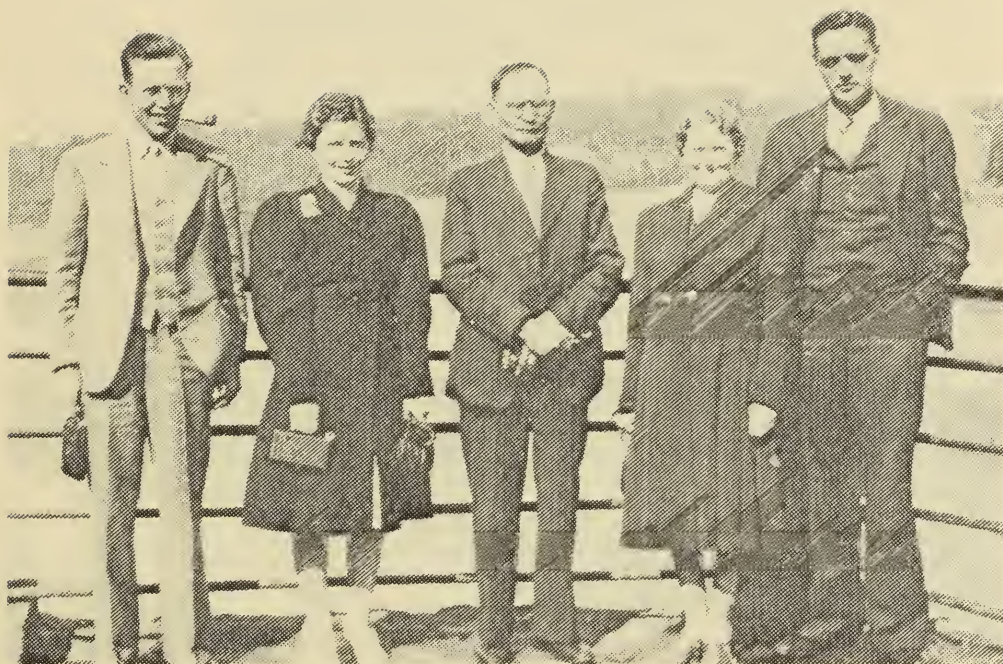
Harry Frazee and Grandchildren

Front [L-R]: Ronald Dale, Jennings Daniel, James David, Karen Diane. Back Row: Laura Lee, Harry Frazee, Jan Elizabeth, Clifton Paul, John Marston, Connie Sue, Peggy Louise, Linda Marlene and William Allen.

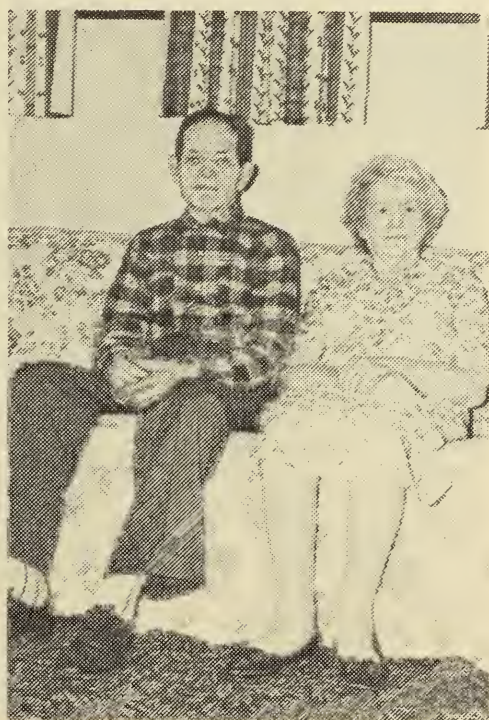


Photo 1932 (right to left) — Front: 1. William Marston
Gillespie, 2. Reed Shipley, 3. Clyde Shipley, 4. William Harry
Gillespie (on knee), 5. Claude Griffin. Standing Center Front: Claude
Griffin, Jr. Standing Front Row: 1. Esker Hamilton, 2. Valeria
Bernadette Frazee, 3. Frank Casteel, 4. Ruth Shipley, 5. Helen

Griffin, 6. Violet Shipley, 7. Margaret Griffin, 8. Rosalie Geneva
Frazee, 9. Arnold Casteel Frazee, 10. Leontine Frazee, 11. Harry
Frazee. Middle Row: 1. Lula Friend, 2. Laura Vern Frazee, 3. Ocie
Griffin, 4. Carrie Shipley, 5. Valeria Grove. Back Row: 1. Francis
Noel Frazee, 2. Gene Friend, 3. Donald Friend.



Niagara Falls, 1939. [L-R]: Arnold Frazee, Rosalie Gillespie, Harry Frazee, Laura Frazee and Mart Gillespie.



Harry & Laura Frazee



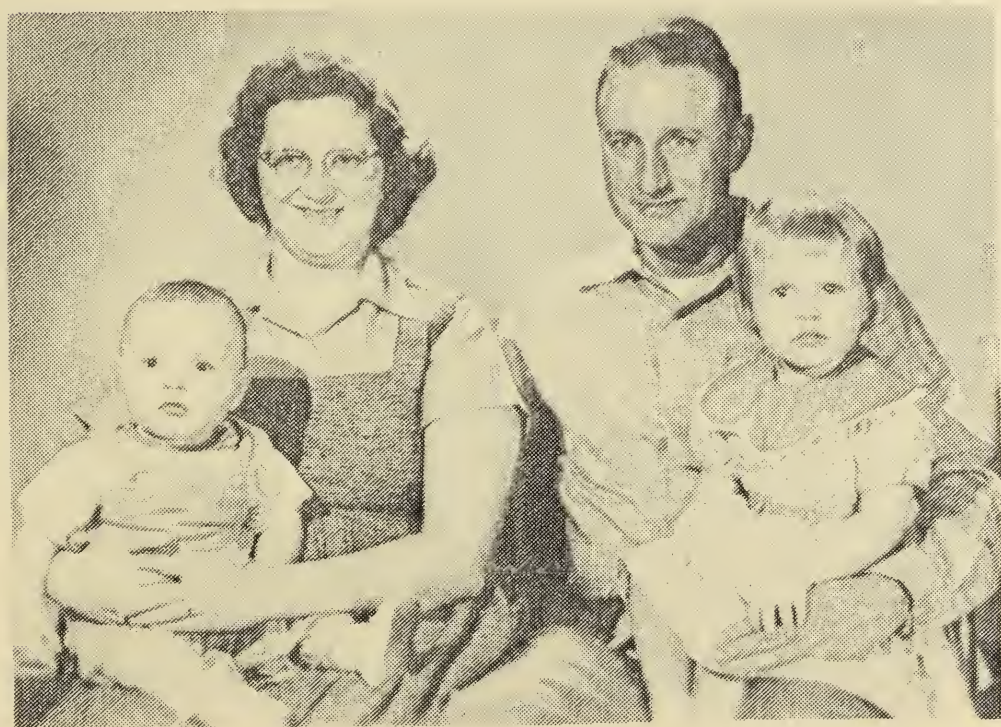
Front Row [L-R]: Valeria, Francis. Back Row [L-R]: Rosalie, and Arnold Frazee.



Family Camping, late 1930's. [L-R]: Front, Billie Frazee, Valeria Grove, Laura Vern Frazee, Rosalie Gillespie, Leontine Frazee. Back: Valeria Bernadette Frazee.



Valeria Bernadette and Cecil Edward Ashby, Sr., with Cecil Edward, Jr., early 1940's.



Mary Anne and Dwight Allman on their 3rd Anniversary [January 11, 1956] with Sharon Kay and Lundon Dwayne.

BAUGHMAN'S*

Christopher Baughman was the first by that name to move into the Webster County area. His birthplace is not known, but he was born on April 2, 1788 and he died on September 29, 1861. He is buried in the Baughman Cemetery near the mouth of Skyles Creek on Birch River. His wife Rachel (?) Gregory was born July 12, 1791 and died July 18, 1843.

It is certain that they had at least three children—John, born February 3, 1814; David, born December 2, 1819 and Samuel, born September 6, 1827—but there may have been others.

DAVID

David was born in Christopher Baughman's home near the mouth of Skyles Creek on Birch River, Nicholas County, Virginia, on December 2, 1819. He died on his Gauley River farm (date unknown) and is buried in a cemetery there.

He was married twice. His first wife was Margaret (Peggy) Miller, a daughter of John Miller, who lived on Gauley River opposite the mouth of Miller Mill Run, then Randolph County, Virginia. After the marriage, they moved to a residence about one mile above the mouth of Turkey Creek on Gauley River where their daughter Francenia was born on June 2, 1844. Mrs. Baughman died just a few days later.

His second wife, Martha Gregory, was born August 12, 1827 in Randolph County, Virginia. They occupied the same residence and had 10 children—Rebecca, Adam Grant, Holly (Polly), John R., Christopher, Jane, Burnard, Elizabeth, Currence and Rachel.

JOHN R.

John R. was born on February 21, 1853. He died on May 13, 1931 and is buried on his home farm in Webster County.

On February 12, 1874, he married Caroline Hamrick, a daughter of Christopher Hamrick. She was born on the Vincent Hamrick farm near the mouth of Mill Run on May 30, 1853 and she died on October 2, 1930. She is buried on the farm on which she was born.

*Material is from a manuscript prepared by Dr. J. B. Doddrell of Webster Springs, W.Va. dated May 15, 1955.

They lived on a farm on Gauley Mountain near the mouth of the North Fork of Gauley River where their four children—Christopher Columbus, Albert, Maletus and Clementine Tennessee Florence Missouri—were born.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

Christopher Columbus was born May 26, 1875 and he died on May 3, 1919. He is buried in the Miller Cemetery on the Back Fork of Elk River about two miles above Webster Springs. On February 16, 1896, he married Harriet Cummings who was born on Mill Run, Webster County, on February 20, 1876. They later made their home about one mile above Webster Springs on the Back Fork of Elk River, the present home of Clarence and Bertha Gillespie.

They had four children: Eva who married Tilden Payne and had Virgil Howard, Lenna Leota, Ernest Landon, Earl Edward, Edna Pearl, Harry Ross, Russell Clarence, Florence Cora and Elmer Floyd and she later married Ira Burnett and had no children; Hinkle who died at 17; Nettie who married Vesper Doddrell and had no children; and Bertha who married Clarence Ford Gillespie and had 10 children.

ALBERT

Albert was born October 26, 1876 and died in August 1948. He was married three times. His first wife was Martha Gregory and they had two sons, Easter and Orville. He then married Alice Gregory and had no children. Later he married Mae Gregory and had one daughter, Betty.

MALETUS

Maletus was born May 21, 1878 and died on August 9, 1955. He married twice. His first wife was Mary E. Bourne and they had four daughters—Mary, Actee, Minerva and

He later married Rosa Cogar and had two daughters, Melissa and Beulah.

CLEMENTINE TENNESSEE FLORENCE MISSOURI

Clementine married Amy Gregory and had Robert, Betsy, Westly and Etha. Their home is on Mill Run about six miles up Elk River from Webster Springs.

RASNICKS

At the present time we have very little substantiated information about the Rasnicks. Efforts will continue to be made, however, to extend it back several more generations and to expand what is written below. We do have information for four generations which indicates you are descendants of James H. through Noah Webster, Allen and Betty.

JAMES H.

James H. Rasnick, born in 1832, and his wife, Margaret, born in 1835, moved to Virginia from Kentucky. They had 10 children, William (1855), Elijah (1856), Rachael (1858), Joshua C. (1859), Jonas B. (1861), Noah Webster (1864-1942), Ezekial (1866), Mary (1868), James H. (1871) and Newton D. (1875).

NOAH WEBSTER

Noah Webster married Virginia Maryland Counts (born 1866), the daughter of William L. and Nancy Rose Counts of Stratton, Buchanan County, Virginia, in Dickinson County on June 5, 1884. They had seven children (the birthdates and sequence of which are not known), Charles, Sidney, Clarence, Luly, Edna, Cloie and Allen.

ALLEN

Allen (February 9, 1895-October 25, 1959) married Clara Leota Counts (July 4, 1899-April 16, 1950), the daughter of Noah Counts and Henrietta Cantrell* (March 10, 1875-1952) on October 3, 1914, in Dickinson County, Virginia.

They had 10 children. The first four died as infants. Only the first was a boy. The others were Hazel Fredrica (December 21, 1918 - December 27, 1964); Mabel (1921 - November, 1938); Virginia (January 18, 1923 - April 23, 1937); Billie Agnes (December 20, 1927 -); Betty Jean (May 1, 1930 -) and Clara Lee (October 25, 1933 -).

*Henrietta Cantrell was the daughter of Arminda Cantrell, a maid in the Douglas home, and Joshua Douglas.

HAZEL FREDRICA

Hazel Fredrica married Gradon Snyder (August 9, 1908-), the son of Pearl and Lora Perry Snyder in Webster Springs on June 15, 1935. They have two sons, Donald Wayne (February 8, 1938) and Darrel Gene (September 24, 1939).

Graydon had a daughter, Ethleen Sheets (March 4, 1932), before his marriage to Hazel. She married Ralph Bevins and now resides in Florida.

Donald married Molly Pullian, daughter of Ray and Wanda Mills Pullian in 1956 in Richwood. They had one son, Donald Jefferey born May 15, 1957. On November 9, 1963 Donald married Oleva Marie Waite, the daughter of Elizabeth Larze and Thomas Waite of Marion, Ohio in Marion, Ohio. They have two sons, Steven Eugene born September 22, 1964 and Graydon Allen, born March 3, 1969. Lee has two children, Cora Elizabeth and Debra Charlene from her previous marriage. Donald is a press operator at the Whirlpool Corporation in Marion, Ohio.

Darrel Gene married Martha Wethered, daughter of William Perry and Juanita Wynne Wethered on June 20, 1959 in Webster Springs. They have one son, Willie, born December 28, 1960 in Columbus, Ohio. Darrell is pursuing a career in the Air Force.

BILLIE AGNES

Billie Agnes married Ernest Maul (March 28, 1927), the son of Otis Glenn and Ethel Mae White Maul of Wendell, West Virginia on September 28, 1947 in Clarksburg, West Virginia. They have two children—Teresa Lee, born June 20, 1948 and Ernest Eugene II, born July 25, 1951. Ernie was in the Navy in 1944. He is a mine foreman in Harrison County, West Virginia.

Teresa Lee married Bernard Lee Shackleford* (born April 7, 1947), the son of Lee and Elizabeth Ware Shackleford of Glenville, West Virginia in Cox's Mill, West Virginia on August 3, 1968. They have three children, Bernard Lee II, born September 28, 1969; James Nathan, born August 25, 1971, and Adam Brock, born November 11, 1972. Bernard is a public school teacher in Wetzel County, West Virginia.

* Mr. and Mrs. Shackleford provided the information on James H. and Noah Webster Rasnick and on William L. and Bruce Counts.

BETTY JEAN

Betty Jean married William Harry Gillespie.

CLARA LEE

Clara Lee married James William Neal (born July 21, 1932 in Lawton, West Virginia), the son of Loren James and Josephine Jones Neal in Morgantown on July 3, 1954. They have two children, Kimberly Ann born October 12, 1957 and Andrew born October 5, 1962. Another son born November 2, 1960 in Germany died in infancy. Jim is a Lieutenant Colonel in the regular Army (Corps of Engineers).

COUNTS

Your relationship to the Counts family of Southwestern Virginia is through William L., Noah Bruce, Clara Leota and Betty.

William L. Counts (1824- ?) married Nancy ? about 1845. They had 13 children. The 1860 census of Buchanan County, Virginia lists Isaac (1846), Sarah (1848), Margaret (1849), Mary (1853), James F. (1851), Elvira (1853), Eliza (1854), John (1855), Nancy (1856), Charles (1857), and Annie (1859).

He later married Nancy Rose (1840- ?) and fathered another 13 children. They included Phoebe, Noah Bruce, Virginia Maryland, Elizabeth, Liddy A., Hopkins, Joseph T. and Eluentia.

NOAH BRUCE

Noah Bruce (March 5, 1865- ? , 1947) married Henrietta Cantrell, daughter of Joshua Douglas and Arminda Cantrell* on November 15, 1888. They had 10 children, Clara Leota (July 4, 1899-April 16, 1950); Bernice, who married Robert Lee Arrington; Hattie; Swanson; Atlee; Carmack; Clyde; Benson; Fleetwood; and Carter. (Birth-dates are not known.)

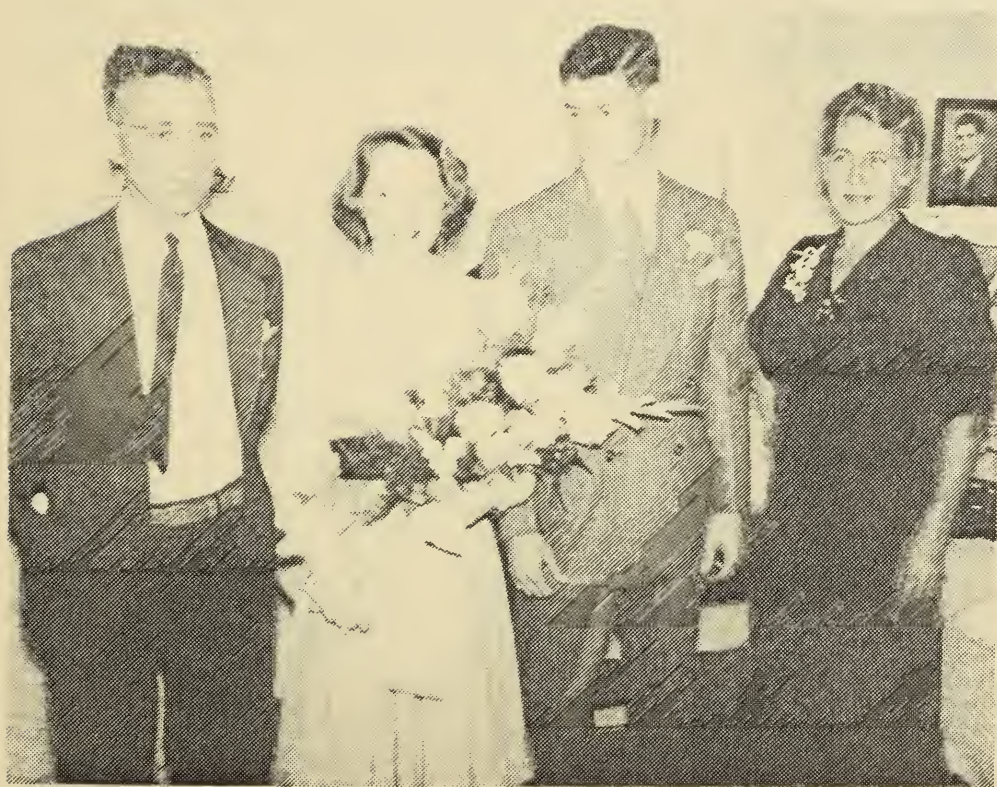
CLARA LEOTA

Clara Leota married Allen Rasnick.

*Arminda later married George Dyer. Later children included Scott, Simpson, William A. and Alice.



Allen and Leota Rasnick



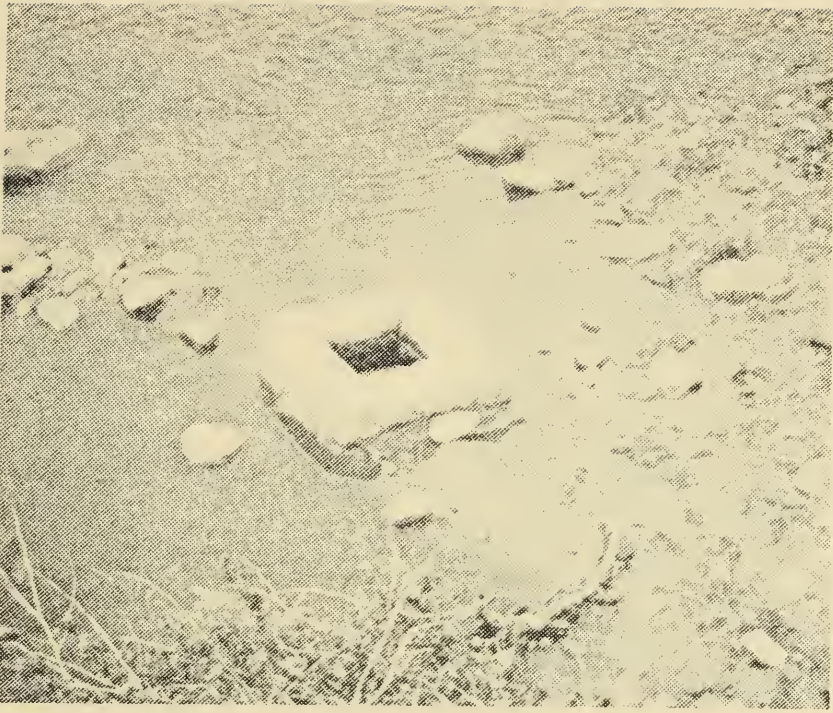
Left to right, Allen Rasnick, Billie Rasnick Maul, Ernest Maul, Leota Rasnick, 1947.



Front row, left to right, Billie Maul with Laura Lee Gillespie, Hazel Snyder, James David Gillespie, Clifton Paul Gillespie, Linda Marlene Gillespie, Kimberly Ann Maul, William Allen Gillespie, Ernest Eugene Maul; Back row, left to right, William Harry Gillespie, Ernest Maul, Gradon Snyder, Betty Jean Gillespie, Clara Neal, James Neal, Teresa Lee Maul.



Left to right, Clara, Kimberly Ann, Andrew and James Neal.



**Old “fork lick” Salt Sulphur Spring at junction of Elk River
& Back Fork, just below Webster Springs.**

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